

ASK OXFORD

Nicholas Ridley and his European interview

Outrage sweeps political circles in London and Bonn

By PHILIP WEBSTER
AND SHEILA GUNN

NICHOLAS Ridley's attack on the Germans produced a barrage of criticism from British politicians of all parties, from government and opposition politicians in Bonn.

Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, a former Labour cabinet minister and former president of the European Commission, said Mr Ridley had given "a most extraordinary, unhinged performance", which showed his ignorance of what was happening in Europe. The trade secretary, a schoolboy during the war, had shown "bitter, unforgiving, unforgotten hostility".

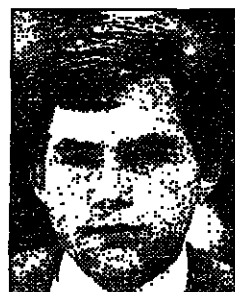
One of the most outspoken responses came from Robin Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England, who said his job had been made "more difficult" by Mr Ridley's remarks, which he accepted delivered the wrong message to the European Community. Mr Leigh-Pemberton said on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme: "I find it an absolutely astonishing outburst. I think it is intemperate and I think it is misplaced."

"There is one element behind this, however, which I see to be inspiring it, which is the anxiety which the Germans are making to some form of economic union with fewer countries than all the members of the Community and this is related to the strong position that the Deutschmark has been able to establish itself and the counter-inflationary achievements of the German economy."

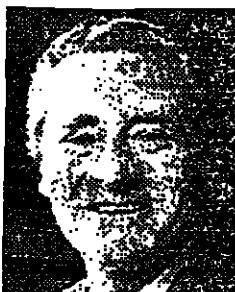
Pro-European Conservative



Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, a former Labour cabinet minister and former president of the European Commission, said Mr Ridley had given "a most extraordinary, unhinged performance", which showed his ignorance of what was happening in Europe.



Gordon Brown, shadow trade and industry secretary, said: "Obviously I welcome the fact that Mr Ridley has brought himself to withdraw the remarks, but to withdraw the remarks is insufficient if we don't know what the policy of the Government actually is. It is absolutely clear that Nicholas Ridley's views are incompatible with those of the Government, so he should not be in the position he is holding."



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Gianni De Michelis, Italian foreign minister and EC president, said: "I find it an absolutely astonishing outburst. I think it is intemperate and I think it is misplaced. There is one element behind this, however, which I see to be inspiring it, which is the anxiety which the Germans are making to some form of economic union with fewer countries than all the members of the Community."



Count Otto Lambsdorff, leader of West Germany's Free Democrats, said: "Ridley had to have been either drunk when he gave the interview or he still hadn't gotten over the English being defeated by the Germans (in the World War II). Mr Ridley's remark that giving up sovereignty to the EC would be akin to giving it up to Adolf Hitler was 'base and vile. One has to have lost one's good sense to utter such foolishness.'"



Ken Warren, chairman, all-party trade committee, said: "I don't think there is any harm in speaking out. I think it was rather an unguarded statement. It is certainly not party policy, but the fact is, he is a free man. I do think we have to be clear that lots of British people are extremely worried about the growth of the economic power of Germany and where it will lead, and I think Nicholas Ridley is quite right to voice the fears of a lot of people, and I think the Germans have a duty to reassure us."



Sir Patrick McNair-Wilson, Tory MP for New Forest, said: "The remarks were 'gratuitously offensive' and Mr Ridley should have known better. It can't be helpful to Mrs Thatcher's diplomacy with other member states of the EC... the question of his place in the Government must be a matter for her. If Mr Ridley were a member of my group in the European Parliament, I would have insisted on his resignation."



Sir Christopher Prout, leader of Conservative MEPs, said: "The remarks were 'gratuitously offensive' and Mr Ridley should have known better. It can't be helpful to Mrs Thatcher's diplomacy with other member states of the EC... the question of his place in the Government must be a matter for her. If Mr Ridley were a member of my group in the European Parliament, I would have insisted on his resignation."

was to keep Germany anchored within Nato and the EC, all of which was about sharing the strength of Germany with its partners.

He added: "If ministers of the crown in this country are providing propaganda material with which Britain can be depicted as an alien force, then the ability of civil servants and ministers to persuade Germany to go our way is severely prejudiced."

● The West German government, clearly appalled, rebuked the minister, saying his remarks were "scandalous and outrageous" (Günther Steichen writes from Bonn). His remarks brought outraged responses from across the political spectrum.

Count Otto Lambsdorff, leader of the Free Democrats, said: "Ridley had to have been either drunk when he gave the interview or he still hadn't gotten over the English being defeated by the Germans (in the World War II)."

The government statement, its tone unusually harsh, called Mr Ridley's remarks "unprecedented and unusual" and "discredit the European Community".

"Attempts to portray European economic and currency union as a 'German swindle' are in gross opposition to the results of the Dublin conference (in June) that the British government agreed to," the statement said.

Herr Rudolf Kraus, a leader in the conservative Christian Social Union said of the comments: "I think they are troubling and outrageous. They are an insult to Germany and to all Germans."

Euro parliament unites in chorus of condemnation

From PETER GUILFORD IN STRASBOURG

THE European parliament burst into uproar yesterday as some of the Community's most influential figures, who had gathered in Strasbourg to debate German unification and greater EC union, vied to deliver the most powerful condemnation of Nicholas Ridley's comments.

The Socialist group, which has a majority, called instantly for him to stand down. Glyn Ford, leader of the British

Labour MEPs, the largest national grouping in Strasbourg, said: "If Mr Ridley is not prepared to do the honourable thing now his mouth has led him to where his mind has always been, he must be asked to resign."

Even the Conservative wing of the parliament made strong hints that he should step down. Sir Christopher Prout, leader of the British Conservative group, called Mr Ridley's remarks quite extraordinary and quite outrageous.

He said: "If one of my members in this house made remarks like that, I would certainly ask him to resign."

Sir Christopher later welcomed Mr Ridley's decision to withdraw his remarks. The observations he made were not only deeply offensive to the Federal Republic of Germany but also extremely damaging to Britain's national interests, he said.

Martin Bangemann, a senior EC commissioner and a German, was reportedly too disgusted to give an initial reaction, but later said: "All talk about a balance of power in Europe is completely out of date and ridiculous."

Of Britain's two EC commissioners, Sir Leon Brittan refused to comment but Bruce Millan said that Mr Ridley was merely expressing long-held views "more indiscreetly and rumbustiously than usual". He seriously doubted, however, that Margaret Thatcher secretly shared Mr Ridley's vision of Germany.

Moving to limit the damage of Mr Ridley's comments, Gianni De Michelis, the Italian foreign minister and EC president, focused on the "pro-European" elements of Mrs Thatcher's cabinet. He praised the prime minister for "playing in the European team" so constructively at the Houston economic summit.

The remarks were most disturbing of all to the Germans, who feared Mr Ridley's attack could have serious repercussions in their country. Dieter Rogallo, a Socialist, said: "It reminds me of how, in olden times, the British would have sent out a gunboat to deal with the natives." The parliament was asked by the Socialists to sign a petition deploring the remarks.

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Minister who talks his way to trouble

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

YESTERDAY'S controversy involving Nicholas Ridley is but the latest gaffe in the career of a minister who shows disdain for the arts of political presentation and ingratiation.

His intelligence and wit have led him into spectacular failures of tact, and his dismissive attitude to the Commons has caused him difficulties at the despatch box.

In Mrs Thatcher's first administration, he was savaged by Conservative backbenchers as he unsuccessfully tried to persuade MPs to support the idea of a "leaseback" arrangement for the Falkland Islands after a transfer of sovereignty to Argentina.

As transport secretary, he arrived at a motor show in a French car and later, in 1987, he faced calls to resign as environment secretary after making a quip based on the Herald of Free Enterprise ferry disaster only days after 193 people perished in it. At a press conference, Mr Ridley said that legislation concerning the Norfolk Broads was going full steam ahead, and said of the junior minister in charge of it: "He has not got his bow doors open."

Mr Ridley quickly accepted his mistake, and said: "I deeply regret this inadvertent error and apologise unreservedly. I am only too well aware of the personal grief involved in such tragedies as the recent ferry disaster."

In the same year, he said people sleeping rough in London should move to towns where homes were available and he argued that golf courses were needed in the north to attract senior executives.

In 1989, Mr Ridley, as environment secretary, opposed a planning application for housing near his Cotswolds home soon after branding Conservative MPs opposing housing developments in rural areas as "Nimby's" — "Not In My Back Yard". When confronted with the issue on television, he tried to halt the live interview.

Since becoming trade secretary last year, Mr Ridley has been involved in controversy over the Fayed brothers' takeover of Harrods and the waiving of the government's golden share in Jaguar, leading to its purchase by Ford.

He made matters worse, during Commons questions about a report accusing the Fayed family of lying to win approval for the takeover, by saying: "I do not think that anyone would believe that the events that we are talking about are particularly heavyweight."

His remarks quite extraordinary and quite outrageous. He said: "If one of my members in this house made remarks like that, I would certainly ask him to resign."

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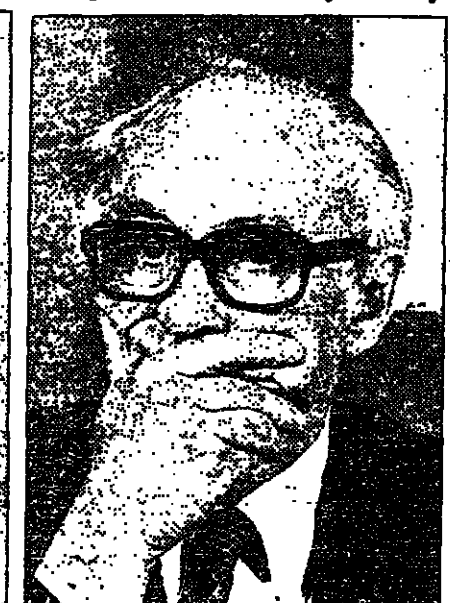
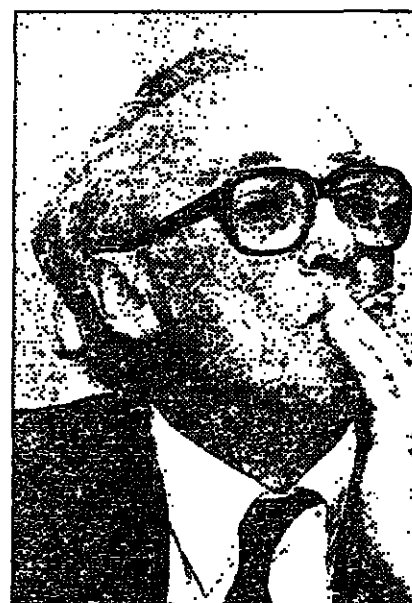
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Why did he? Dominic Lawson has said that their conversation took place during and after lunch, and the secretary of state had one small glass of wine. Mr Ridley can sometimes be unpolished, but he is not a man given to calculated indiscretion. Perhaps he lowered his guard because he found himself talking to the son of a former cabinet colleague. The wife of the smoking room was strong.

Mr Ridley is a puzzle to his party



Faces in a high-profile career: Mr Ridley as environment minister removing graffiti from a hospital wall in April last year; and below (from left), in 1964 as a young MP, in 1984 as transport secretary, and in his present role as industry secretary



Little rhapsody on the streets of Budapest

From ERNEST BECK
IN BUDAPEST

GRIM-FACED and downcast, the trade secretary yesterday continued his visit to Budapest to promote further British investment in Hungary, one of eastern Europe's most enthusiastic pro-European new democracies. But his visit degenerated into a battle with journalists eager to hear him speak. Emerging

from the austere building of the ministry of industry, Mr Ridley kept his eyes to the ground as a pack of journalists inquired if he regretted his choice of words. "I have nothing to say," he said as he took refuge in the British ambassador's green Jaguar.

By the time Mr Ridley reached the parliament building for a short chat with Jozsef Antall, the Hungarian prime

minister, the crush grew to include a television crew and Hungarian journalists. At this point a trip to Budapest's bustling fruit and vegetable market was abruptly called off and the official motorcade made its way back to the British embassy, where it is presumed Mr Ridley approved the statement expressing regret about his remarks which was issued shortly after.

But there was no rest. As he arrived for lunch at a luxury hotel he was followed into the dining room by an ever-increasing pack, which was rewarded this time with total silence. Some Hungarians wondered if this was normal behaviour for a British minister, as it reminded them of their recently departed communist leaders, experts all at stonewalling.

Poll shows many share concern about Germany

By DAVID YOUNG

NICHOLAS Ridley's remarks might have been withdrawn, but it appears that half the people in Britain and France, which he described as Germany's poodle, share some of his concerns.

Earlier this year, Mori conducted a poll on behalf of *The Economist* and *The Los Angeles Times* asking for public reaction to changes in Eastern Europe and 50 per cent of those who took part in Britain and France said they would be worried that a reunified Germany would become the dominant power in Europe.

In Poland, 69 per cent of people said that they would be worried, and in the US the figure was 29 per cent.

In Britain, 28 per cent said that they would be worried because Germany might try to expand its territory, in France the figure was 15 per cent, in Poland 54 per cent, and in the US 26 per cent. The figures of those concerned that the German economy would become too strong were 41 per cent in Britain, 55 per cent in France, 39 per cent in Poland and 26 per cent in the US.

The main concern in Britain, for 53 per cent of those asked, was that a reunified Germany would lead to a return to fascism. In France the figure was 38 per cent, in Poland 53 per cent and in the US 37 per cent.

In spite of their fears most people who took part in the survey said that they personally favoured a reunification of Germany: 45 per cent in Britain, 61 per cent in France and the US. Only in Poland was there a majority against reunification, 44 per cent against 41 per cent.

In Britain, 61 per cent said they would prefer to see a reunified Germany in Nato, in France 43 per cent and in the US 50 per cent. Again, only in Poland was there a majority against a reunified Germany's Nato membership.

Mintel, the market research specialists, also found that while West Germany was the third most preferred country of residence other than Britain, liking the people came low on the list of reasons. The survey found that in September last year 15 per cent of people would choose France as a new home, 12 per cent Switzerland and 11 per cent West Germany.

Only 28 per cent gave liking the people as a reason for choosing Germany. The most likeable new countrymen, they said, would be the Italians (58 per cent), closely followed by the Belgians and Danes. People would prefer the Dutch, the Greeks, the Norwegians, Portuguese and the Irish as new fellow countrymen.

The Mintel survey found, however, that once settled in Germany a high standard of living could be enjoyed.

Why the secretary of state may escape with a mild handbagging

WHEN Nicholas Ridley gave lunch to the editor of *The Spectator* at his home in Gloucestershire last week, he seems to have taken as his text a line from *The Importance of Being Earnest*: "On an occasion of this kind it becomes more than a moral duty to speak one's mind. It becomes a pleasure."

That outlook runs in the family, of course. Long before the trade secretary's 16th-century namesake went to the stake in Oxford with Cranmer and Latimer, he had been one of the Cambridge proctors who signed the decree against the jurisdiction of the Pope in England. This week it was the jurisdiction of Herr Kohl and Herr Pöhl that was in question: "I'm not against giving up sovereignty in principle, but not to this lot."

Candour, or the appearance of it, is more often encountered on the left than on the right in British politics. If Mr Benn or Mr Skinner says something outrageous, the shockwaves are small — that is essentially what the Sage of Chichester

and the Beast of Bolsover are for, and if they did not scandalise us, we would feel that they were falling down on the job.

Tory politicians carry a heavier burden in this respect than their opponents. The Conservative tablets of stone are engraved not with ten commandments but with 11, and the additional injunction is "thou shalt not speak out of turn". In the Tory book there is no graver offence; speaking out of turn is much worse than getting your hand stuck in the till, or fornication, or wearing pink socks at a party conference.

Should he have said it? Clearly not. Why did he? Dominic Lawson has said that their conversation took place during and after lunch, and the secretary of state had one small glass of wine. Mr Ridley can sometimes be unpolished, but he is not a man given to calculated indiscretion. Perhaps he lowered his guard because he found himself talking to the son of a former cabinet colleague. The wife of the smoking room was strong.

Mr Ridley is a puzzle to his party

because he is not at all what he seems. He has many of the attributes of a knight of the shires, and yet he is a civil engineer. He is a man of immense charm — his civil servants think the world of him — and yet he can be disconcertingly rude. He is an accomplished and experienced politician, and yet he finds it difficult to conceal his irritation and boredom with much of the small change of politics, even if he has been elected to parliament nine times.

When Mr Ashdown said yesterday, "We all know he has acted as the PM's ventriloquist's doll", he displayed ignorance, both of the relationship between Margaret Thatcher and Mr Ridley and of how cabinets work. The prime minister certainly has a regard for the trade secretary, not least for his independence of mind, but to see him as a house-trained version of Sir Alan Walters is wide of the mark.

In this matter, Mrs Thatcher is not so very different from all her predecessors; sometimes she listens to her colleagues, sometimes she merely "hears" them. It is

in the nature of things that the latter occasions much outnumber the former, and there is no evidence that Mr Ridley offers approving exception to that rule.

The last occasion there was baying for Mr Ridley's blood was at the time of his Fayed affair, when he angered some of his Conservative colleagues by his disdainful insistence that the matters under discussion were "not particularly heavyweight". A less fastidious man would have played to the gallery and earned an easy growl or two of approval from the benches behind him, but that is not the style of the man.

Although the manner can be brusque, this is not an area in which he breaks any records. A constituent once asked Duncan Sandys some question or other about the workings of the Commons, which he thought tedious. "Madam," he growled, "I was elected to represent Streatham at Westminster, not Westminster at Streatham." Ridley's patrician manner does not prevent him from being well-liked and trusted in his constituency. "That's old

Nicholas," his deputy chairman said yesterday. "He's a man who tells it how it is. He doesn't dissemble."

The question of how much grit there should be in the cabinet oyster is for the prime minister. When the text of his interview is shorn of its extravagant language, Mr Ridley was doing no more than rehearse questions about sovereignty and accountability which exercise a good many of his parliamentary colleagues and a substantial proportion of the electorate. That is something the *bien-pensants* of the party might reflect on before they get too apologetic about the effect of Mr Ridley's indiscretion.

Mr Ridley stands in a long and robust tradition. If F.E. Smith and Winston Churchill had been dumped every time they were guilty of "speaking out of turn" the history of the party would be very different. The faggots crackled as loudly as they have ever done yesterday for the member for Cirencester and Tewkesbury, but he is not for the stake just yet.

IAN MCINTYRE

Fears of violence mount, study of public views says

By RICHARD EVANS, MEDIA EDITOR

PEOPLE are becoming fearful of what they perceive to be mounting violence in Britain, a survey of public attitudes published yesterday says.

Half of the population believe the country is a "markedly violent" place and they favour drastic forms of punishment to deal with those responsible, according to the study by the Broadcasting Standards Council.

"The idea that Britain is on a slippery slope to an even more cruel culture is deeply embedded in people's minds. Most people in the survey thought that Britain had become more violent (68 per

cent) or much more violent (15 per cent) since 1980," the survey said.

The £60,000 study showed that almost half (46 per cent) of respondents were convinced "that the deep, underlying problem was that most homes lacked discipline", while others cited unemployment (21 per cent), lack of discipline in schools (14 per cent) and television (12 per cent).

Corporal and capital punishment were supported by many, with 63 per cent saying that schoolboys who misbehave should be caned or belted, while 51 per cent believed similar punishment for bad behaviour. Somewhat surprisingly, less than half (44 per cent) favoured capital punishment for premeditated murder.

A majority supported murderers being jailed for life, with no chance of release, while 43 per cent backed castration for rapists. Most people (84 per cent) felt the police should be armed when dealing with an armed robbery.

"These bare, descriptive statistics do uncover a strong sense among many people that there exists in Britain a powerful culture of violence which must be met with a violent response. A large number of British citizens feel that authority is maintained and

chaos averted by the belt, cane and gun."

Although the survey into violence in television fiction uncovered a concern about violence in every-day life, it showed that most people are able to differentiate between television fantasy horror and real-life violence.

People who watch a lot of television have similar views about the cause and cure of violence as irregular television viewers. A majority of people (90 per cent) indicated that they enjoyed at least one type of violent film.

The apparent ability of people to differentiate between television violence and the real-life variety, combined with the small minority who believe the two are linked, would appear to undermine the role of the Broadcasting Standards Council, which was established by the prime minister to deal with sex and violence on screen.

Colin Shaw, the council director, admitted yesterday that viewers did not watch television in a vacuum and had a mind of their own. "There is a limited role for the BSC. The government believes that there is a role to be performed as well as a number of people out there. I think we can make the council a useful and constructive influence. As long as it is thought to be necessary it will be valuable rather than useless."

Greenham women win trespass appeal

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

FIVE Law Lords yesterday ruled in favour of two anti-nuclear protesters in a test case against the Ministry of Defence, which could mean that thousands of people fined or jailed for trespass at the US cruise missile base at Greenham Common will now have their convictions quashed.

The two women, Jean Hutchinson and Georgina Smith, from the Greenham Common peace camp, had fought a legal battle with the defence ministry for four years since their arrest in June 1986 after breaking into the Berkshire base.

In yesterday's ruling, the five Law Lords unanimously allowed appeals by Miss Smith and Miss Hutchinson

against a High Court ruling that they had been guilty of entering the base "without authority or permission".

The women had been charged under Greenham Common bylaws, drawn up in 1985. The High Court in October 1988 ruled that the bylaws were invalid but only for the 35 people who had commoners' rights.

Lord Bridge said the defence ministry bylaws had been too widely drafted, excluding commoners' rights of access, and ruled in favour of the two women. A spokesman for the defence ministry said that the judgment would have to be properly studied.

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Princess unfazed by family life protest

By LIN JENKINS

FIVE demonstrators promoting the cause of lesbian and gay parenthood disrupted the Princess of Wales's address to the International Congress for the Family, in Brighton, yesterday.

The four women and one man walked on to the stage carrying sheets of paper with the message "Lesbian mothers aren't pretending" before walking behind the seated Princess and offstage to cries of "shame".

Their message was somewhat unnecessary. The Princess's speech had already done more to counter the congress's belief.

Critics have said that the Princess was ill-advised to attend, claiming that the congress supported only a concept of the family as a married couple and their children, and was firmly against contraception, sex education and abortion.

The Princess clearly stated an alternative view, and failed to meet the organisers' expectations of endorsing their traditional stance.

She said that all people had their own views of what a family should be. Her own view was moulded by experience and visits to organisations supporting couples and children in difficulty.

She said: "There are certain common ingredients essential for families of all sizes and types. These must, of course, be love, but love in its most practical form; commitment to each other; sharing together; self-discipline and some self-sacrifice."

"I doubt whether there is any standard formula for a successful family. The family is, after all, the most human, and hence the most imperfect, of institutions. Instead, I could only point to those mothers, fathers and children — in lonely isolation or in comfortable conformity — who simply do their best with what they have. Their success is measured by the care they have for each other, and I suspect there is no better judgment."

She urged the 3,000 delegates at the four-day congress at the Brighton conference centre to "remember that the very idea of the human family has many definitions and perhaps only those who depend on it most, the young, the old, the sick and the lonely, can really claim to know its meaning."

As she sat down, to applause



The Princess of Wales delivering her unexpected views on the family yesterday

noticeably less enthusiastic than that for the more evangelical proponents of a particular type of family, the protesters came on stage. The Princess looked unperturbed and later thanked Bryn Williams, the master of ceremonies, for handling the situation so well.

Questions about security were raised by the incident on the platform, but neither the police, royal officials or the congress organisers accepted responsibility for policing the event. Roger Birch, chief constable of Sussex, said that the

organisers had been aware of a planned demonstration.

He said: "The whole thing was handled with great dignity. If we had turned it into a situation with some form of violence it would have been in no one's interest."

Christine Vollmer, president of the congress, said: "The Princess was at no time in any danger and her protection people were around."

Too much attention is paid to criminal offenders and too little to their victims, the Princess Royal said yesterday on the eve of a visit to Scottish

prison inmates (Alan Hamilton writes). Startlingly little effort was applied to supporting victims, while a great deal was expended on dealing with the offender and establishing innocence or guilt, the Princess, speaking as patron of Victim Support, said in a Press Association interview.

The Princess today visits Peterhead prison as patron of the Butler Trust, which makes awards for outstanding work among prison officers. She said yesterday that offenders should be rehabilitated as responsible citizens.

Cot death victims may have been too hot in bed

By THOMSON PRENTICE SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

SOME cot deaths may be caused by parents keeping their babies too warmly wrapped in overheated bedrooms, according to research published in the *British Medical Journal* today.

The doctors say that infants may also be at extra risk of sudden death if they sleep face downwards, although this position has its advantages. A study of 216 babies in Avon and Somerset, including 67 cot death cases, shows that most of those who died wore more clothing and bedding and were sleeping in the prone position. Many victims had also been in rooms in which the heating was on all night.

The evidence supports the theory that some cot deaths are due to the infant becoming too hot, which might lead to severe breathing difficulties. The effects would be greater if the baby is already suffering a viral respiratory infection.

The research was carried out under the direction of Dr Peter Fleming, a leading investigator of the sudden infant death syndrome at the Institute of Child Health in Bristol. The findings suggest that the number of such deaths could be reduced if parents were educated about the sleeping positions and thermal care of their babies.

Shift work should be introduced for doctors in labour wards to prevent obstetric accidents being made by over-tired doctors, according to a letter sent to the journal by specialists at Birmingham Maternity Hospital. Another letter, by the Association for Improvements in Maternity Services, says the personalities of some doctors and midwives make them unsuitable for obstetrics work. They ignore what women in labour tell them, and the results are sometimes fatal.

The letters were provoked by a report in the journal which criticised labour ward staff for making fatal mistakes. The association says: "Women who are of low social class are even less likely to be believed, which may be one reason for the higher perinatal mortality in these groups."

The journal also publishes a review of 58 stillbirths by Mid Essex Health Authority, which shows that 32 could have been prevented, including 17 in which the mother's alarm that the foetus had stopped moving was not followed up adequately.

Irish have no place at talks, Paisley tells rally

By EDWARD GORMAN IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

ON THE eve of a further important round of Anglo-Irish talks in London today Northern Ireland Unionist leaders yesterday warned the government against giving any further ground to Dublin in its attempts to maintain momentum towards inter-party talks in the province.

Jan Paisley, the Democratic Unionist leader, addressing thousands of Orangemen at the battle of the Boyne tercentenary commemoration at Ballymoney, Co. Antrim, said the unionist leadership was totally opposed to the Irish government having a direct input in talks on the future of Northern Ireland.

He said neither Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, nor his civil servants would be welcome at the negotiating table. "That table is a no-go area to Dublin and Charlie Haughey."

Mr Paisley's remarks, echoed at scores of Orange demonstrations across the province in which an estimated 100,000 people took part, were seen as a warning shot to the government as Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary meets Gerard Collins, the Irish foreign minister, for further talks in London today.

They will deal almost exclusively with the Irish government's insistence that it play a direct and early role in Mr Brooke's proposed three-tiered structure of interlocking talks aimed at establishing a new devolved administration in Belfast and a revived Anglo-Irish Agreement in parallel with it.

Dublin's insistence on a precise timetable for its involvement prevented Mr Brooke from making a full statement on the process in the Commons last week.

Although there is still considerable optimism on both sides that a compromise formula will be found official sources in the Irish capital continued to describe the issue as really difficult.

Mr Brooke has indicated that his initiative would be in serious trouble if he could not make a positive announcement in the Commons by the end of this Parliamentary session on July 26.

If today's talks fail to break the deadlock, Mr Brooke and Mr Collins will have another chance on Tuesday at the third full Anglo-Irish conference meeting of the year which is expected to be held in Belfast.

Also on the agenda will be cross-border security co-operation and the report completed in May by John Stevens, Deputy Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire, into collusion between the security forces in Northern Ireland and loyalist paramilitaries.

Yesterday's Orange commemoration was billed as the biggest for 20 years, involving over 1,500 lodges' marches at 18 places. The biggest was in Belfast where 260 lodges and 145 bands took part. By late afternoon police had reported no trouble.

Saunders 'was too trusting'

THE former Guinness chief Ernest Saunders hired the best advisers money could buy but could be over-trusting, a court was told yesterday.

The former company chairman and chief executive, on trial on charges resulting from the £2.7 billion takeover of Distillers, delegated work to people he could trust.

Ian Cheshire, former executive assistant to Mr Saunders at Guinness, told Southwark Crown Court: "Once he had come to trust someone he would be open and honest with the people around him and tended to delegate; if anything he was too trusting."

Mr Saunders and three co-defendants deny being involved in an illegal share support operation that saw Guinness beat off the challenge of Argyll by paying millions of pounds in success fees and indemnities to supporters recruited to back the brewing group's 1986 campaign for the whisky firm.

Mr Cheshire said Mr Saunders' fellow director Tom Ward, who is awaiting extradition from the United States to face allegations relating to the takeover, would just get on with things and depend on Mr Saunders' later approval.

Mr Saunders, Gerald Ronson, chairman of Heron Corporation, Anthony Parnes, a stockbroker, and the financier Sir Jack Lyons variously deny 24 counts of theft, false accounting, and breaches of the Companies Act. The trial continues today.

£5m care plan for mentally ill living rough in London

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A SCHEME costing £5 million to provide homes and psychiatric care for mentally ill people living in the squalor of London streets and open spaces was announced by the health department yesterday.

The project will fund 60 short-term hostel places in three London health regions, three community-based psychiatric teams and long-term accommodation provided by housing associations for up to 450 people within three years.

The initiative was immediately criticised by organisations representing the mentally ill as "a drop in the ocean" that would do little to help the thousands of people in this category living in the capital.

Stephen Dorrell, junior health minister, said yesterday that there were an estimated 1,000 homeless people in central London, of whom between 300 and 500 were mentally ill.

The mental health association Mind claims that at least 11,000 people are living on the streets in greater London, of whom nearly 5,000 are mentally ill. "Sixty hostel places and three community psychiatric teams will do little to tackle the problem of finding long-term accommodation for these people," Liz Sayce, project officer for Mind, said.

The hostels are likely to be run by voluntary organisations, which will have access to social security payments, although the schemes will be set up jointly with the health service and social services.

The scheme is expected to cost more than £5 million in the first two years, with the bulk of the money being spent on capital developments and £600,000 on the community psychiatric teams.

Revenue for the hostels will come partly from the social security budget and partly from the new mental illness grant, which will be allocated next year.

Between £600,000 and £800,000 of the grant is likely to be earmarked to top up running costs. Mr Dorrell denied that the homeless mentally ill problem was due to "excessive vigour" in closing hospitals for the mentally ill. "I do not think there is any evidence to support that," he said.

The Audit Commission survey was conducted jointly with the Institution of Environmental Health Officers whose members are employed by district councils to enforce food hygiene laws. The government is providing £30 million to be spent on improving enforcement of higher standards for food premises.

Crackdown order on tacky takeaways

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government will today urge local authorities to take tough action against rogue food premises and restaurants that are blackening the name of the catering and food industry.

David Maclean, the food minister, is to call on environmental health officers to make full use of their strengthened powers to order shop and restaurant owners to improve their premises or to close them down if they breach standards.

He is planning an attack on the "sloppy end of the food chain" and the "tacky takeaways" which are bringing food establishments into disrepute. He is

to act after the publication last month of an Audit Commission survey showing that one in eight food premises presents a high public health risk, and that one in 25 should be prosecuted or closed because of poor hygiene.

Takeaways were judged the worst offenders, with one in five being judged a serious health risk. Food manufacturers and restaurants performed only slightly better, between 15 and 20 per cent of them falling into the high-risk category.

In a speech in Windermere to representatives of the hotel and catering industry, Mr Maclean will tell health officers that they should use their new

powers in the Food Safety Act to clamp down on offenders. He will emphasise that poor management control is to blame for many of the worst cases, with refrigerators in shops and restaurants being operated at the wrong temperatures.

The Audit Commission survey was conducted jointly with the Institution of Environmental Health Officers whose members are employed by district councils to enforce food hygiene laws. The government is providing £30 million to be spent on improving enforcement of higher standards for food premises.

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May report on the Maguire case

Late exhibit is blamed for miscarriage of justice

By STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

CRUCIAL evidence in the trial of the Maguire seven was mis-handled and misunderstood by the trial judge, now Lord Donaldson of Lynton, Master of the Rolls, according to the interim report of the May enquiry published yesterday.

The judge did not see the significance of a key document discovered late in the trial on a vital test for nitro-glycerine used by the Crown and should have ruled evidence on another ad hoc test as inadmissible. According to Sir John May, a former Court of Appeal judge, Lord Donaldson's mistakes were then repeated by the Court of Appeal in 1977 when the case was heard by Lord Justice Roskill, Lord Justice Waller and Mr Justice Ackner.

Sir John concluded: "The conduct of the trial can itself be validly challenged on at least two points." The jury was not adequately directed on the effect of the document, known as exhibit 60, on the foundation of the Crown case. The second point was a test devised by a scientist to back that foundation should never have gone before them. It could well have influenced their thinking, the report said.

Sir John's criticisms spared neither lawyers nor the scientists whose evidence was the basis for the prosecution 14 years ago. He said: "It has been shown that the whole scientific basis upon which the prosecution was founded was in truth so vitiated that on this basis alone the Court of Appeal should be invited to set aside the convictions."

A scientist for the defence had been robustly questioned by the Crown but if the jury had known

more about the Crown scientists they might well have looked askance at their evidence. They knew but did not reveal that the positive result was not unique for nitro-glycerine, did not say secondary tests which were negative had been held nor fully disclosed tests carried out during the trial even to the prosecution.

The scientists honestly reported results for nitro-glycerine and once charges were laid there was no going back. They "imperfectly understood their duties as forensic scientists and as witnesses".

The seven, whose cases were this week referred back to the Court of Appeal by the home secretary, were convicted in 1976 on evidence that they had been in contact with nitro-glycerine. Evidence was presented during the four-week hearing by the enquiry that the source could have been contamination. No one tested or

sought the bathroom of the Maguires' home. Sir John said given the absence of the check on the bathroom he accepted the possibility that innocent contamination could have taken place. "It does not seem to me that the question of innocent contamination and whether this could have been the explanation of the traces on the defendant's hands was ever properly investigated at the trial."

Sir John also leaves open the possibility that he may examine any allegations of deliberate contamination. He plans to look at four wider issues which emerged from the Maguire case which are likely to provide further criticisms. They include the preparation of forensic evidence and the role of experts; advance disclosure of scientific findings; the process by which a prosecution based on scientific evidence is

authorised and Home Office procedures for assessing scientific evidence after claims of a miscarriage of justice.

The central thrust of the Crown case 14 years ago rested on tests using a method called thin layer chromatography made by scientists at the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment which showed that samples taken from the hands of the defendants had been in contact with nitro-glycerine. The Crown witnesses said the results could only come from this explosive and the defendants must have almost kneaded the material.

The defence argued there might be another source. As the judge was beginning his summing-up an expert witness for the defence discovered a paper which showed that the test could also be positive for PETN, another explosive. Sir John said: "Any miscarriage of

justice which has occurred in this case was due in part to the late appearance of exhibit 60 and to the way in which it was dealt with. The judge ought not to have accepted the compromise agreed between the parties but should have insisted that witnesses be called."

Everyone was misled into the false belief that the Crown scientists could have satisfactorily excluded PETN. In fact the Crown could not prove an allegation in the indictment which only referred to nitro-glycerine. The judge did not put to the jury the fact that exhibit 60 undermined the uniqueness of the test.

He agreed a statement should be drafted. His approach was to fasten on to the fact no one was suggesting that PETN was present and therefore directed the jury they could ignore not only PETN but also the circumstances of

exhibit 60. Sir John said: "He did not appreciate the importance of exhibit 60 and the defendant's approach to it. I think he in fact failed to appreciate that exhibit 60 in fact removed the plank of the exclusivity of the TLC test which was the whole basis of the Crown case." The Court of Appeal accepted the summing-up and did not appreciate the "real strength" of the defence arguments.

Lord Donaldson's second error was to allow evidence of a test run by Douglas Higgs, a RARDE scientist, in which kits for taking samples were sent out to police to find a substance which would give the same result as nitro-glycerine. The tests were negative but Sir John said there was no evidence how hand swabs had been taken and he did not accept Mr Higgs' evidence how they had been checked. The checks were done by junior staff whose results were

accepted without question. The evidence was important because it demonstrated to the jury there was no other substance which could give results as nitro-glycerine did and it was given emphasis by the trial judge.

● In the Commons, MPs protested when the Speaker ruled that as the case had been formally referred to the Court of Appeal, the sub judice rules prevented them from raising the case (Richard Ford writes).

Opposition MPs accused David Waddington, the home secretary, of manipulating events to prevent debate on the report by Sir John. Roy Hattersley, the shadow home secretary, said the sub judice rule only applied because Mr Waddington had chosen to refer the case to the Court of Appeal in the morning. The House would not have been denied "its proper rights" if he had referred the case this afternoon, he said.

Although Mr Waddington attempted to placate angry MPs by offering to explain the reasons behind the referral, the Speaker refused to allow him. "The matter is clearly sub judice, and it is an important constitutional principle that members of the legislature should not pronounce on the guilt or innocence of those facing criminal charges in the course of their trial or during their appeal", he said.

The argument continued during 45 minutes of Home Office questions and on one occasion, the Speaker rebuked Mr Waddington and said: "You have caused this to be sub judice and I have to uphold that rule."

Interim Report on the Maguire Case (Stationery Office, £7.30)

Leading article, page 11

'Natural heretic' Donaldson in stormy waters again

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT



Donaldson: dedicated to making courts efficient

LORD Donaldson of Lynton, the judge whose handling, while Mr Justice Donaldson, of the Maguire case came in for unequivocal criticism yesterday, along with the conduct of the Court of Appeal, is well used to controversy of a political nature.

From when he stood three years of trade union vilification as President of the National Industrial Relations Court in the early Seventies to the future over the disclosure in 1983 that he gave advice to the government over its industrial relations law, the Master of the Rolls has periodically found himself thrust into the limelight.

Until yesterday, his record and reputation on the judicial front have been relatively untarnished and trouble-free.

Since succeeding Lord Denning as Master of the Rolls, head of the Court of Appeal's civil division, in 1982, Lord Donaldson has ushered in sweeping reforms and achieved much in cutting the delays and backlogs that have plagued the civil courts.

His administrative skills and dedication to efficiency — coupled with his politically-acceptable colours — made him widely tipped to succeed Lord Hailsham as Lord Chancellor, a post that went in 1987

to Lord Mackay of Clashfern.

Now 69, Lord Donaldson has also done much in eight years as Master of the Rolls in cutting time-wasting by lawyers, with more use of skeleton arguments and of written judgments handed down to counsel. Brisk and quick to grasp a point, Lord Donaldson has annoyed many a barrister appearing before him by cutting speeches short.

Critics maintain that he can be off-hand, arrogant and inclined to "shoot from the hip", or, as Michael Foot put it of his presidency of the NIRC, that he has a "trigger-happy judicial finger".

Overall, though, John Donaldson's judicial credentials are sound. He is generally seen as fair and open-minded; and despite his Conservative colours, by no means an establishment prop. He attracts such epithets as "a natural heretic" and "fair-minded". His judgments, renowned as clear and jargon-free, often go beyond the issue at stake to map out possible reforms.

Despite high office, Lord Donaldson remains unassuming and approachable. He happily took second place at numerous functions when his wife, Dame Mary Donaldson, was the first female Lord Mayor of London in 1983-4.

Farmers will profit from subsidies cut, Thatcher says

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S farmers stand to do well out of the decision by the leaders of the world's seven richest industrialised nations to reduce agricultural subsidies, the prime minister said yesterday.

She described the agreement as the greatest success of the Houston summit and set out to reassure the farming community by arguing that British agriculture would profit from a more competitive international climate.

"To subsidise inefficient producers to keep them in business is unfair to those who are competitive. The outcome should therefore be to the advantage of British farmers, who are among the most efficient in Europe," Mrs Thatcher told MPs in a Commons statement on the meeting of the Group of Seven countries.

Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, led Opposition and Conservative MPs in demanding that the common agricultural policy (CAP) be either slimmed down or abolished. However, Mr Kinnock and other Labour MPs were critical of the "extremely vague" terms of the declaration.

He said that the government should press for a timetable for reducing farm subsidies, while protecting hill farmers and others working marginal land.

Terence Higgins, the Tory chairman of the all-party Commons treasury committee, said the CAP was a "per- version of the free-market" and should be totally scrapped. However, Mrs Thatcher pointed out that "we are all guilty to some extent of supporting farming", and cited figures showing that the United States and Japan also subsidised the industry.

She said that it would not be possible to eliminate subsidies. The right course of action was steadily to reduce them so that the competitive and efficient farmer could take a bigger share of the market.

Mrs Thatcher also disclosed

that Jacques Delors, the president of the European Commission, had promised her that he would "get action under way" within the community to implement the summit declaration.

● Britain's farmers fear that the Houston decision to cut agriculture subsidies could affect them while leaving government support to United States farmers unchanged (David Young writes).

The communiqué brought a warning from the National Farmers' Union against undue pressure on the EC to weaken aid for the industry. The communiqué has caused alarm because the CAP is the lynch-pin of Britain's farming industry. Almost £3.5 billion a year is paid to the industry under the policy, although the NFU stresses that the community has made considerable strides in recent years in reducing farm support.

The money gives guaranteed minimum prices for farm produce and was recently seen in action when beef was bought into frozen storage as prices slumped because of fears of "mad cow" disease. But agriculture benefits from a

host of other support measures, including special grants to farmers in difficult areas such as the uplands, and payments to take land out of production or protect the environment. The policy also subsidises food exports, and those payments have been irksome to the United States in particular. Washington has led the fight against world-wide farm supports which stimulate over-production of food and then pay traders to export the surplus.

Any drastic cut in the Common Agricultural Policy would severely hit farmers' income and put many out of business. It would, the farming lobby says, also mean there were fewer farmers to act as custodians of the land, a role which the government sees as crucial to its environmental protection strategy. The NFU has made no official statement on the issue yet, but it will campaign to ensure that any changes after Houston apply to both Europe and the United States.

Parliament, page 6
Leading article, page 11
Sir Simon Goulay, page 14



Lady Sainsbury by the young dancer statue at the Royal Opera House in London yesterday. As Anya Linden she is one of the dancers to have played Princess Aurora who gathered to celebrate 100 years of *The Sleeping Beauty*

Police blamed for court delay

By OUR LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE poor quality and lateness of police files are causing delays in court and a serious waste of Crown Prosecution Service resources, according to the service's annual report yesterday.

As a result, all CPS areas continuously check and send reminders to police that missing files are needed by a certain date, it says.

Yesterday Mr Allan Green QC, director of public prosecutions, said that was one of several issues being tackled by a criminal justice working group which would put proposals for change to ministers. It was essential that files

were on time, were legible and were complete, he said. "Quite often we get one or two of those elements but not all of them."

The report accepts that there is understandable pressure on chief constables to release police officers to spend more time on operational duties than on paperwork, however essential. As a result, special units have been set up to deal with preparation of CPS files. The use of some civilian staff inevitably made the internal supervision of files by senior police officers even more essential. In addition, direct contact between

the police officer and the CPS tended to decline, "which is not conducive to effective communications".

Mr Green said recruitment was now less of a problem; although it was still present because of the growing demands for manpower. The CPS now needed 2,051 lawyers, compared with 1,206 when it was set up in 1986.

In London there was still an average shortfall of lawyers of 21.6 per cent, although the position was better than it had been, Mr Green said.

Annual report of the Crown Prosecution Service, 1989/90 (Stationery Office, £8.60)

Unwanted engineers go abroad

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

PARALYSIS faces Britain's quest for solutions to pressing environmental issues as engineers flee to foreign countries for higher social status, wages and influence, it was claimed yesterday.

Decades of indifference, hostility and ignorance by educationalists and captains of industry towards engineering, matched by government under-resourcing, have come to a head, a report for the Institution of Electrical Engineers said.

A view that engineers are illiterate repair men or women, who "do dirty jobs" or are scurrilous individuals respon-

sible for the environmental ills of the age, was endemic.

"More British engineers are finding it more profitable to make a living on the Continent where salaries are higher and the engineering profession is highly regarded. The reduction of trade barriers in 1992 will only make it easier and more attractive to work abroad," researchers from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, in the United States, said.

The report gathered information from Britain and abroad. It identified a phenomenon termed overculture which, it claims, steers clever students away from engineer-

ing, leads to young graduates starting on typists' salaries and ensures few engineers rise to positions of influence.

To counteract the decline of British engineering, stem the brain drain and avoid the national slide into a tourism and service economy, several recommendations are made, including an aggressive national advertising campaign aimed at promoting a positive image of engineering and the achievement of engineers.

An examination of the status of engineers in the United Kingdom, by Coifman, Murphy, Santoso (Worcester Polytechnic Institute)

Ban on pets for cruel shop assistant

A former pet shop assistant who neglected pets at his home was banned from keeping animals for 10 years by magistrates in Exeter, Devon. William Richards, aged 19, of Rifford Road, Exeter, was put on probation for two years and ordered to pay £100 costs.

He pleaded guilty to 19 charges of causing unnecessary suffering to 24 animals. An RSPCA inspector who visited his unheated house found a hungry, underweight cockatiel in a cage with its dead mate, terrapins and toads in tanks of filthy, smelly water and three lizards which were torpid with cold.

Owner jailed

Sheridan Lee, aged 34, the owner of a Soho gambling club, was jailed for 15 months for manslaughter yesterday by an Old Bailey judge. Henry Tang, aged 48, a customer Lee banned for trouble-making, died of a fractured skull, after being pushed down stairs.

Scanner success

Mandy Turner, aged 21, who is terminally ill with cancer, left her bed at Tameside General Hospital in Manchester to attend a press conference after she had raised £700,000 for a scanner.

Natural causes

The Humberside coroner's office said yesterday that Barbara Procter, aged 62, who lay dead on her bedroom floor in Beverley for about five weeks, with her two dogs standing guard, died of natural causes.

Factory death

One man died and a second was taken to hospital after they were trapped while carrying out maintenance on machinery at the Avon Rubber Company in Melksham, Wiltshire.

Arrows leader

Squadron Leader Adrian Thurlay, aged 36, an instructor at RAF Chivenor, Devon, is to lead the Red Arrows aerobatic team from September.

Victim named

Police have named the man who was killed by a fire engine in the Edgware Road on Wednesday. He was Brian Henry, aged 46, of Kingsbury, north-west London.

Flying high

Keith Mans, MP for Wyre, Lancashire, beat Gerald Howarth, MP for Cannock and Burntwood, Staffordshire, to win the 1990 "Parliamentary Pilot of the Year" competition.

Bomb cash

Gary Patterson, aged 31, has been paid £300 by police after his car, which had broken down outside the army careers office in Colchester, Essex, was blown up by bomb disposal officers six days ago.

Anglers die

David Jenkins, aged 23, and Stephen Bateman, aged 26, of Milford Haven, Dyfed, drowned after trying to recover a dropped fishing rod at Watwick Bay.

Yorkshire lads rally round their King Arthur for miners' gala

ARTHUR Scargill was yesterday preparing for a triumphant appearance at the weekend's Durham Miners' Gala, one of the most emotive manifestations of union solidarity in Britain, convinced that his position as president of the National Union of Mineworkers is secure.

All week, during the miners' conference, he has withstood assault from the media ("my piranhas"), insisting the Lightman enquiry cleared him of the main allegations made against him.

He can reflect on the standing ovation he received from his heard-and delegates when he told them defiantly: "I apologise for nothing."

It was vintage Scargill, uncompromising and defiant, a champagne performance in front of the faithful. Rank-and-file miners, heartened by the defensive ring of enthusiasm with which the delegates protected their leader from "trial by media", may have been more disturbed if they had had the opportunity

of reading the 133-page report and its equally bulky appendix.

For while some delegates had read the document, no ordinary miner has yet been able to study its catalogue of secret accounts, a sham trust fund, misapplication of Soviet money, confusion of assets, unauthorised financial dealings, impropriety, and "deeply disturbing" home loans.

In his report, Gavin Lightman, QC, says: "In his address to the 1990 congress of Soviet miners Mr Scargill said the Soviet miners had a right to know what happened to their money. So much greater is the right to know of the English miner." When, through their areas, miners are eventually able to take in its contents, their legendary loyalty to their leader may be tested to the full over what Kim Howells, Labour MP for Pontypridd, has called "this sordid affair".

It will ensure that Mr Scargill will face a far better informed and much more critical test in the autumn when a special

delegates' conference will be called to discuss the Lightman findings.

At that meeting, Mr Scargill and Peter Heathfield, the general secretary, may face disciplinary action if an area calls for it. Even if loyalty turns to anger, the union's own rule book makes it extremely difficult for Mr Scargill to be ousted. King Arthur is a Yorkshire lad and it is unlikely that militant Yorkshire miners, who form by far the largest bulk of union members, would deliver the two-thirds ballot majority required to strip him of his crown.

Of more immediate concern to Mr Scargill is the real possibility that his own union will become embroiled in an embarrassing legal dispute with the secretive and "tactically impenetrable" International Miners' Organisation which he helped to found.

Before next Thursday's meeting of the NUM's national executive committee, four of its members will meet Mr Lightman, who will tell them whether it is

possible for the IMO to be sued for up to £1.6 million in costs in a Dublin bank account. It is also possible that acting on new information Mr Lightman will produce additional sections to his report.

Labour MPs, seeking increasingly to isolate Mr Scargill before the next general election, believe the money collected by Soviet and other miners was meant to relieve hardship during the strike, not to be used by the IMO for "international purposes". They certainly do not consider that any IMO money should have been used, as it was, to provided home loans totalling £160,000 to Mr Scargill and Mr Heathfield, since paid back.

In spite of Mr Lightman's doubts whether Mr Scargill should remain president of the NUM and the IMO, which has gained "substantial advantage" at the expense of the British union, Mr Scargill has no intention of relinquishing his post with the Paris-based organisation. He said the organisation, criticised

by Mr Lightman for the "downright refusal" of its general secretary, Alain Simon, to co-operate with his enquiry had a "bright future".

It is this defiance, the conviction that in spite of all the evidence he has done nothing fundamentally wrong and acted at all times in the best interests of his members which attracts to Mr Scargill such loyalty and loathing.

One Labour MP said: "Until the members realise that an attack on Scargill is not an attack on the union, it will continue to decline and become an irrelevance."

Mr Scargill says everything he did was for the benefit of the union. He was fighting a war against a hostile government and sequestrators, so extraordinary actions were justified. The war did not end in 1985 with the defeat of his army, described by one union leader as "lions led by donkeys". It still continues and Mr Scargill may yet become a casualty.

TIM JONES

Praise for home buying scheme

The pilot schemes for turning reits into mortgage payments, in Scotland and Wales, were going well and with more experience, the extension of the schemes might be considered, the prime minister said during question time.

David Amess (Basilston, C) had asked her to enhance the opportunity for extending home ownership by extending the scheme to the whole of the UK.

Mrs Thatcher agreed that the scheme was an advantageous way of extending home ownership, in addition to the right-to-buy legislation.

L-drivers' new rules

Rules requiring qualified drivers accompanying learner drivers to be at least 21 years old and to have held a full licence for three years came into force on October 1, but Robert Atkins, transport minister, announcing the change today in the Commons, urged all provisional licence holders to accompany them met the new requirements now.

He also announced publication of a syllabus for learner drivers and motorcyclists, with related information on how to apply for driving tests, issued by the driving standards agency. It will be on sale towards the end of this year.

Hunt for the missing

A computerised register of missing persons is to be established as soon as the mark two version of the national police computer comes on stream, Peter Lloyd, the home office minister, said at question time.

He pointed out that of the 106,000 young people who were reported lost, all but 1.5 per cent were found within four weeks. However, that did not mean that the system could not be improved.

Water safe

Water supplies in annex buildings that form part of the Palace of Westminster are now safe and could be used without risk, Sir Geoffrey Howe, leader of the House, said. On Wednesday, MPs had been warned that water in some buildings used by MPs might not be safe.

Beef is cleared, but MPs want stricter controls

By SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

AGRICULTURE

● A ban on using calves' offal in human food.

THE Commons agriculture committee said yesterday that no evidence exists to prove that eating beef is a threat to human health because of "mad cow" disease.

The committee report urged slightly tighter controls, but it set out to restore public confidence in British beef. The report, into the spread of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), pointed out that if scientists were to give cattle iron reassurances, it was mainly for the philosophical reason that "nothing in this life is certain".

It accused Professor Richard Lacey, the scientist, of seeming to lose touch completely with the real world by alleging that if the worst fears about BSE were realised, Britain could virtually lose a generation of people.

The report said: "That not all scientists carry equal authority was amply borne out in our evidence. Professor Lacey in particular showed a tendency to extrapolate sensational conclusions from incomplete evidence in order to publicise his long-standing concerns about food safety."

"The result was a mixture of science and science fiction, a quite unsuitable basis for public policy."

Such scientists tended to present the risks to humans in their most dramatic light. The committee also criticised the media for spreading public alarm about the safety of eating beef and "beating a path" to Dr Lacey's door.

The MPs were also worried that the government's ban on the use of cattle offal for human consumption should be properly policed in slaughterhouses to maintain full public confidence.

They chastised the government for its "rather haphazard" response to the beef scare and demanded stricter controls in slaughterhouses.

The report called for:

- a ban on splitting cattle heads in abattoirs;
- farmers to be discouraged from breeding from offspring of diseased cows;
- a scheme for identifying and tracing all cattle;
- a statutory ban on certain offal in pet food;
- an enquiry into animal feed production; and

members of the public, decision-making is not a purely scientific process, however much one might wish it was."

Mr Gummer said yesterday that he welcomed the committee report for endorsing that there is no risk to human health and that eating beef is safe. "I am sure that consumers will find this an extra reassurance", he added.

He is to ask his independent scientific advisers to consider whether to back the committee's other recommendations for tighter controls.

Dr Lacey, a former government adviser and professor of microbiology at Leeds University, replied: "No amount of unpleasantness is going to resolve this issue. My concerns are not allayed by a group of MPs who represent farming interests."

David Clark, shadow agriculture minister, welcomed the Tory-dominated committee's recommendations, although he was disappointed that they did not include random sampling of cattle heads.

Matthew Taylor, Liberal Democrat food spokesman, said Mr Gummer must undertake to implement all the committee's recommendations without delay "and in future show a little more humility".

"Perhaps Mr Gummer will now realise cheap publicity gimmicks such as force-feeding his children hamburgers in public is no substitute for a sensible food policy."

BSE: House of Commons agriculture committee fifth report (Stationery Office).

Internment power likely to stay

By RICHARD FORD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government is unlikely to remove the power to detain people without trial from the anti-terrorism laws operating in northern Ireland.

Despite a recommendation in a review of emergency legislation to drop the power, ministers believe that the argument in favour of retaining the option to reintroduce internment remains strong, even though it has not been used since 1975.

Unionist politicians criticised the proposal, made by Lord Colville of Culross as part of a review of emergency legislation that was commissioned by the Northern Ireland secretary. They said the Irish republic maintained the power

to detain without trial and that to remove it in the North would send the wrong signal to the terrorists.

In his review, Lord Colville also called for tougher regulation of the private security industry, the video-recording of police interviews with terrorist suspects and the creation of a new offence of going equipped for acts of terrorism.

His report of a review of the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Acts, 1978 and 1987, recommends measures aimed at reducing the potential for conflict between the public, particularly the nationalist community, and members of the security forces. They include the creation of lay-by facilities at vehicle checkpoints on the border in order to reduce delays, the provision of a list of

solicitors with telephone numbers at interrogation centres, and consideration of the appointment of an ombudsman to monitor the effectiveness of police and army complaints procedures.

He also recommends the transfer to the province's jails of people from Northern Ireland imprisoned in Great Britain.

In an attempt to improve the fight against terrorism, he calls, as well as for the new offence of going equipped for acts of terrorism, for the introduction of a general power in the courts to allow the investigation and confiscation of funds gained from terrorist racketeering, and the creation of a body, similar to the Serious Fraud Office in England, to fight such racketeering.



Roy Hattersley: Commons "has been left out"

'Intolerable' decision

DAVID Waddington, the home secretary, came under sharp attack in the Commons when MPs learnt that they could not question him on the Maguire Seven appeal after the Speaker ruled the matter sub judice until the case was over.

Roy Hattersley, shadow home secretary, said the prohibition applied because the case had been referred to the Court of Appeal in the morning, before the House sat. Had it been referred later, MPs could have put their questions first. Everybody else in the world was allowed to comment on a report into the affair by Sir John May except the Commons. That was intolerable.

Mr Waddington said that he would be more than happy to make a statement to the House after the Court of Appeal's decision.

Kinnock calls for swifter aid for Russia

PRIME MINISTER

NEIL Kinnock called in the Commons for swifter aid for the Soviet Union and other emerging democracies in Eastern Europe to "finish off the old order once and for all".

He was speaking in response to a statement from the prime minister about the Group of Seven summit meeting in Houston, Texas, earlier this week. Margaret Thatcher had told MPs: "Last week's successful Nato summit in London was an important step towards a safer and more peaceful world. Our meeting in Houston takes us towards a more prosperous world for everyone."

The leader of the Opposition, said that the G7 commitment to giving appropriate economic assistance to countries that chose freedom was welcome, but if the end of totalitarianism in Eastern Europe was followed by poverty, it would be a tragedy and a source of dangerous instability.

Aid must be allocated judiciously to specific objectives, but if it was too slow or too little, it would not have the desired effect of fostering change, liberty and peace. Properly used, aid was vitally important to finishing off the old order once and for all.

There was widespread support for the reduction of agricultural subsidies, but the terms of the Houston communiqué were extremely vague on the point. The government should press for a timetable for their reduction, but also for transitional arrangements for farmers in marginal areas who might be affected.

Mrs Thatcher said that many countries had lines of credit to the Soviet Union. A loan of \$800 million to the Soviet Union from Britain had not been drawn down, so that country was not short of loan facilities.

Britain was offering technical assistance and considering further aid. Any aid, even from the G7, would be comparatively small in an economy of 280 mil-

lion people, but they could not run the country for them.

They would look at the International Monetary Fund analysis to see what further help they could give.

Agricultural subsidy was negotiated through the common agricultural policy (CAP) and the community would have to go together to see how they went ahead to honour the commitments.

Terence Higgins (Worthing, C) said that it was no good kicking around the edges of the CAP. It was wrong to participate and must be totally scrapped.

Mrs Thatcher replied by quoting figures from the OECD showing total cost to the consumer and taxpayer of all forms of agricultural support.

It was \$46 billion in America where the population was 220 million; \$93 billion in the European Community where the population was 320 million; and \$68 billion in Japan where the population was about 120 million.

"We cannot go from these figures straight away to nothing at all. What we are doing is going steadily in the right direction of reducing protection, reducing subsidies and getting support away from the uncompetitive areas, the competitive efficient farmer have a much larger proportion of the trade."

Denis Healey (Leeds East, Lab) said: "If she will not sack people like Nicholas Ridley and Sir Alan Walters, who are family friends, will she explain to the House and the people, how the foreign secretary, the chancellor and the leader of the House can continue to sit in the same cabinet as men who are undermining every single objective of their policies?"

Mrs Thatcher retorted: "He will be known for ever as the only chancellor who brought this country to the brink of bankruptcy."

Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week is expected to be:

Monday and Tuesday: Finance bill, report and third reading. Wednesday: Debate on Opposition motion on community care.

Thursday: Debate on motion to approve permanent televising of Commons.

Friday: Debate on private member's motion.

The main business in the House of Lords is expected to be:

Monday: British Nationality (Hong Kong) bill, committee.

Tuesday: Landlord and Tenant (Licensed Premises) bill, report.

Wednesday and Thursday: Broadcasting bill, committee stage, continued.

Friday: Finance bill, all stages.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on

policing London.

Lords (11): Debate on language teaching in schools. Motion on extension of Northern Ireland act.

Safety fears over sale of nuclear weapon industry

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE government's plan to hand over the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) to private contractors will threaten the safety of the public and staff, according to a report by the Commons defence committee yesterday.

The MPs say that the transfer to companies which need to make a profit also runs the risk of repeating dangerous

and damaging mistakes made by the United States nuclear weapons industry. Tom King, the defence secretary, has announced plans for a two-stage handover by 1992 of nuclear weapons production at the Aldermaston and Burghfield plants in Berkshire. Legislation is expected to approve the scheme soon.

However, the defence com-

mittee said the problems in the United States, where private contractors have handled the nuclear weapons programme for 40 years, had been serious and widespread. "There have been many reports of escapes of radioactive materials due to inadequate containment and safety measures," it said. "Recently, for example, it was reported that some 62lb of plutonium was found lodged in the air ducts of the Rocky Flats weapons plant near Denver."

The American department of energy is facing lawsuits for the clean-up and has had to seal off large tracts of land. "Some of these problems may reflect inadequacies in awareness and practices some years ago. Nonetheless, there must be grounds for concern that the failures arose as a result of commercial pressures - pressures from which the nuclear industry in the UK has not been immune in the past."

The report concludes: "It is clear that there will have to be significant improvements over US operating, monitoring and compliance practices in the plans for the contractorisation of the AWE, if the dangerous and damaging mistakes made in the US are not to be repeated here."

The committee said that inadequate ducts had already been installed at Aldermaston, for example, because of differences in the interpretation of a contract. The MPs say the transfer should not be rushed and the defence ministry should give satisfactory assurances before contracts are awarded.

"In particular, safety and security issues should be fully explored, and detailed and binding standards applicable to all four AWE sites should be set out in the invitation to tender and in the eventual contract."

Trade unions representing workers at the weapons sites told the committee that they were worried about radiation doses at the plants, in the light of the findings published after the Gardner investigation into the risks of leukaemia near the Sellafield nuclear power station in Cumbria. They fear the hazards will increase when private contractors are put in charge.

Progress of the Trident programme, House of Commons defence committee 9th report (Stationery Office, £13.25)



Three men who were visible in the seized video films of public disorder after the poll tax protest in London

Handover of riot film defended

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

FIFTEEN of the 36 people suspected of committing serious offences during the London poll tax riot, whose photographs were later published in newspapers and on television at the police's request, have been arrested, it was disclosed yesterday.

Detective Superintendent Roy Ramm, who is heading the enquiry, defended the Crown Prosecution Service's decision to seek court orders compelling the media to hand over video and photographic evidence to the police. "The dilemma is simply this. We either publish the photographs and video evidence and we arrest people, or we don't and they go free." The public and the courts had a right to see such very plain and truthful material, he said.

Mr Ramm pointed out that some of the film handed over had allowed two people to be eliminated from the investigation. In the police force's film they had appeared to be looking an off-lence during the disorder on March 31. "The film actually showed

that they were putting bottles back into the shop window," he said.

Nearly 500 people have now been charged in connection with the 1,850 offences reportedly committed during the riot. There were 550 assaults on police officers recorded, of which more than 50 involve allegations of attempt to cause grievous bodily harm. Other protesters have been charged under the 1986 Public Order Act.

The Metropolitan Police has made unprecedented use of photographic and video material during the investigation and a "rogues gallery" of 2,500 photographs has been set up in a south London police station. So far, 828 witnesses, of whom all but 113 have been police officers, have looked at the photographs.

Detectives yesterday issued five more photographs of suspects to the media. They included photographs of a young man who was filmed by a BBC cameraman hurling a metal road sign at a line of policemen and of another



Police want to interview these two men, who were shown on video film of the poll tax riot on March 31

protester who smashed the window of a police van, which had been surrounded by demonstrators, with a wooden stake. Police believe the suspects took a prominent part in the disorder.

The original team of 130

officers has now been slimmed down to 90. Many of the suspects have been tracked down in the London area but arrests have also been made in Portsmouth, Manchester, Liverpool and Barnsley, South Yorkshire.

Copper-plated pennies could save £4m

By SHEILA GUNN

ONE and two pence coins cost more to make than their face value, a discovery that has led the House of Commons public accounts committee to demand that they be replaced by cheaper copper-plated coins at a saving to the taxpayer of up to £4 million.

The investigation into the working of the Royal Mint's annual coin sales of £95.2 million also uncovered little interest in the gold Britannia sovereign. The coin was unveiled with great fanfare in 1987 when about 23 million sov-

ereigns held in stock were melted down to make it.

However, the imposition of value-added tax on gold coins and the fall in gold prices virtually demolished the market for Britannia overnight.

The MPs found that the mint had promoted Britannia at a cost of more than £3.5 million, but that it made a profit of only £100,000 on sales of nearly £64 million.

"We therefore asked the mint why they had embarked on this enterprise. We were told it was a ministerial

decision, taken in the early part of 1987, and that it was government policy that the mint should look for market opportunities: the mint's financial target was to earn a large return on that return," the MPs say.

The committee takes the Royal Mint to task for not taking more care in seeing if there was a demand for Britannia before production.

The Royal Mint, House of Commons committee of public accounts 24th report (Stationery Office, £4.65)

Profits of Crown Estate rise 26%

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE Crown Estate, one of the largest land and property owners in Britain, which yields its profits to the Exchequer, reported an increased surplus for the year, up by 26.6 per cent from £43.6 million to £55 million in spite of the depressed property market.

Introducing the results for the year to March, the Earl of Mansfield and Mansfield, first estate commissioner, said the rental income from the estate's 250,000 acres of agricultural land, and blocks of property, mostly in London, had increased by 27 per cent, the result of "astute property management and results from recent investment programmes and rent reviews in the London heartland".

He admitted that the depressed market had slowed down the capital receipts from which the estate funded future developments and meant that "while our commitment to current projects remains, further development plans have had to be held in abeyance". In the commissioners' report, Lord Mansfield emphasised their increasing concern with conservation and environmental issues, and their intention to provide affordable housing for those who wished to remain in established urban and rural communities.

The report says that for some time the commissioners have been concerned about the availability of low-cost housing for people on their rural estates, and last year ordered a study to look at methods by which the Crown Estate might help.

"Commissioners are concerned that a strategy is developed for the retention of a locally housed workforce which will not only strengthen local communities but also provide ancillary or associated employment opportunities. They have therefore decided to pursue vigorously the identification of land with the estate which could be released on suitable terms to housing associations or housing societies for small-scale housing schemes."

The estate also highlights its work in maintaining hedgerows and planting trees, minimising the environmental impact of its mineral extraction activities, and taking action to avoid coastal erosion.

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مكزامن النجف

ing columnist, Ayaz Amir, in an article in the *Daily Dawn*, not be let off. But Miss Shinto has firmly ruled out the prospect.

Gorbachev's new deputy to tackle rift within party

From REUTER IN MOSCOW

VLADIMIR Ivashko, the new Soviet Communist party deputy leader, pledged yesterday to listen to all points of view in the deeply divided party, and suggested that his election victory over the hardliner, Yegor Ligachev, was a triumph of reason over emotion.

In his first news conference as deputy to President Gorbachev, Mr Ivashko, who is considered a moderate conservative, said he would listen to radicals such as the popular Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation.

"At times emotions overcome knowledge, this is normal," Mr Ivashko said, when asked why he defeated Mr Ligachev in voting at the party congress on Wednesday. "Often it happens that, in the course of a discussion, the emotional struggle becomes so acute that fierce applause is given to diametrically opposed speeches... But there comes a moment when a person has to take a decision. And at this stage emotion yields to common sense."

In the newly created post of deputy general secretary, for which he was Mr Gorbachev's personal choice, Mr Ivashko, aged 58, will be running the party's day-to-day operations. His supporters said he was more likely than Mr Ligachev to be able to unite the feuding factions and rejuvenate the party, which has lost thousands of members and much of its authority recently.

"Now we need to create a new party, a renewed party, in the sense that it will be acting as a live organism with all its tiny cells functioning actively," Mr Ivashko told reporters. "I will attempt every effort to consolidate the party to the maximum, to accommodate different views and opinions," he said, adding that some proposals by Mr Yeltsin, who urged the party to form a coalition with other forces, merited attention.

But Mr Ivashko acknowledged that he had failed to get along with many radicals in the Ukrainian parliament,

where the national independence movement, Rukh, has 25 per cent of the delegates and has been gradually attracting more support.

He resigned as Ukrainian president this week, complaining of a lack of support from parliamentary deputies after they demanded that he and other Ukrainian delegates to the congress return home to discuss a declaration of sovereignty. "As for the situation in the Ukraine, I know I will be under scathing criticism. Some of it may be justified, some may not be," Mr Ivashko said.

His prediction had already been fulfilled, with Mykhailo Horyn, one of Rukh's leaders, saying on Wednesday evening that Mr Ivashko's decision to abandon the Ukraine for a top party post in Moscow meant the end of his career. "Only a man who does not think about his future can abandon the post of president of a 52 million-strong nation to become deputy chairman of a party which is dying on its feet," Mr Horyn was quoted by the independent Ukrainian agency RPI as saying.

Mr Ivashko said the party would begin working at once on a new programme. But he did not shed any further light on how he intended to use his new position, saying he had not yet discussed it with Mr Gorbachev.

He defeated Mr Ligachev, the self-styled Marxist-Leninist candidate, by 3,109 votes to 776, after a spectacular rise to the top of the party since he was made first secretary of former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev's old Ukrainian fiefdom, Dnepropetrovsk, in 1986.

Mr Ivashko became party chief of the Ukraine last autumn, taking over from leading conservative Vladimir Shcherbitsky, but resigned from that post last month. Mr Ivashko's conservatism was reflected in his defence of his six-month spell in the early 1980s as political adviser in Afghanistan, where Soviet troops fought a 10-year war against Muslim rebels.

"This was an assignment made by the Communist party central committee," Mr Ivashko told the news conference. "I gave my recommendations to the central committee of the Afghan party. I believe that in no way did either I or my comrades damage the Afghan people," he said. "To the contrary, we always urged our Afghan colleagues to achieve consolidation. But we may not have been very successful."

Meanwhile, President Gorbachev yesterday appealed to the Armenian and Azerbaijani peoples and governments to promote a settlement to their conflict over the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

He intervened at the party congress to announce that Armenian militants killed three people and wounded 24 when they ambushed a convoy in the disputed territory in the Caucasus on Wednesday.

President Gorbachev said that the militants stopped a convoy of 17 vehicles, including five buses filled with soldiers, and opened fire. The dead were an Azeri officer, a Russian soldier, and the wife of an Azerbaijani party secretary.

In the past two years, hundreds of people have died in the dispute over Nagorno-Karabakh, an enclave inside Azerbaijan populated mainly by Armenians. The Kremlin took over direct rule of the area but returned it to Azerbaijan last year. Armenia wants the enclave attached to its territory.

Azerbaijan last month declared a state of emergency along its frontier with Armenia and tightened border controls.

Sweden to extradite hijacker

Stockholm — Sweden is to comply with Moscow's request to extradite Dmitri Semyonov, aged 17, who commandeered a flight to Stockholm in June, and hopes its decision will help to end a recent spate of Soviet airline hijackings.

"This is a signal to presumptive hijackers, we look very gravely on hijackings," Lena Hjelm-Wallen, the international development minister and acting prime minister, said after the government had approved the extradition.

The youth forced a Soviet domestic flight with 121 people on board to divert to Sweden on June 9 by threatening the plane's crew with a fake hand-grenade. Sweden's Supreme Court on Wednesday rejected the boy's plea that, because of his youth and weak general condition, he should be allowed to stay in Sweden. (Reuters)

Romania miners face prosecution

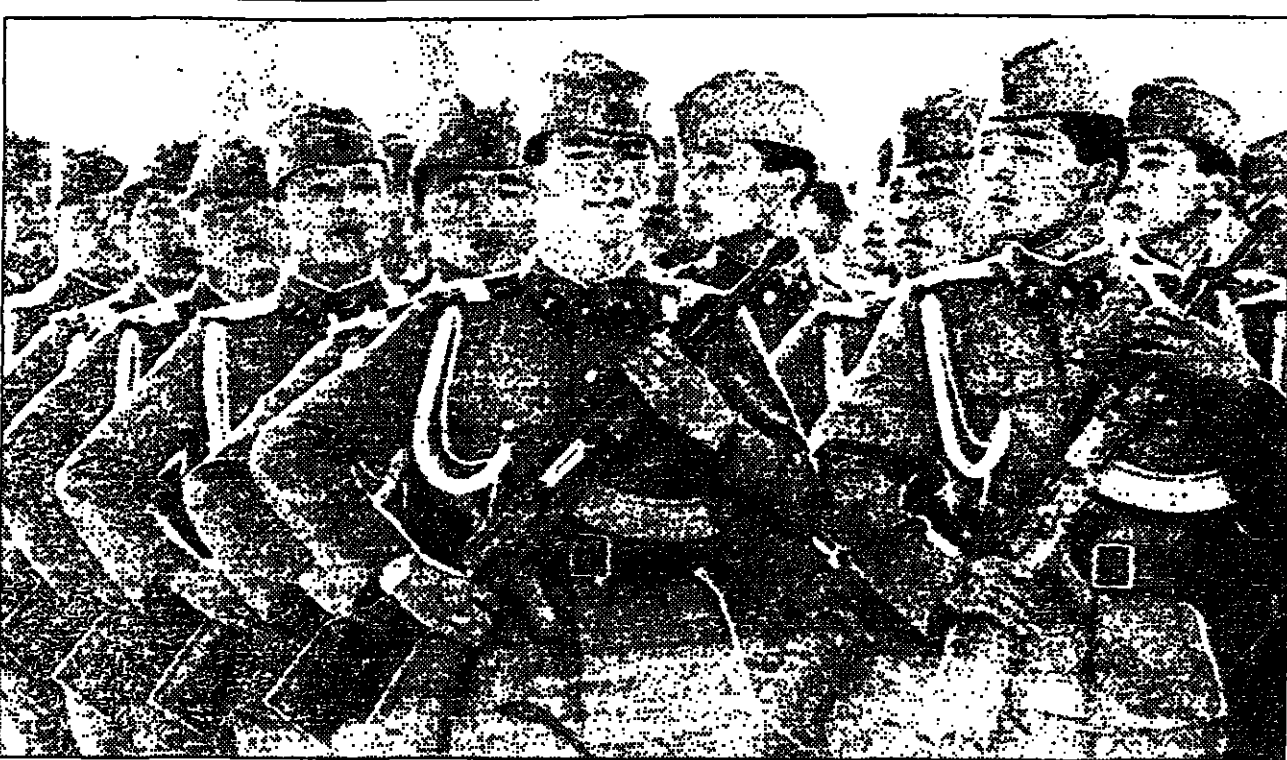
Bucharest — Petre Roman, the Romanian prime minister, says some miners who staged a violent three-day crackdown on anti-government protesters here in mid-June are to be prosecuted. Six people died and hundreds were injured in the incident.

Mr Roman, who was addressing a group of French legislators on Wednesday, did not say how many miners were involved in the prosecution. He did say, however, that the action was against those who ransacked the headquarters of the opposition National Peasants Party and the home of Ion Ratiu, its candidate in the presidential election held on May 30. (AFP)

Violinist refuses to pay ransom

Toulon — Pierre Amoyal, the French musician whose Stradivarius violin, valued at \$660,000, was stolen by the Italian Mafia three years ago, said yesterday that he would not pay a ransom to get it back. Turin police said on Monday that the Stradivarius, made in 1717 for Tsar Nicholas II, was in the hands of a Mafia group who were demanding a ransom for its safe return.

The violin disappeared when M Amoyal's car was stolen in Saluzzo, Italy, on April 15, 1987. The car thief was murdered a few months ago. (AFP)



Ancient and modern: horsemen in traditional dress and present-day soldiers celebrating in Ulan Bator yesterday

Man in the News

Ivashko balances between conservatism and reform

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

VLADIMIR Ivashko appears to be a committee man's committee man. During the 28th Communist party congress here, he has chaired the editorial commission which approves the official documents and minutes of proceedings. He has frequently been called to the podium, where he has given clear, concise summaries of problems and presented his own drafting solutions.

For President Gorbachev in his role as party general secretary Mr Ivashko has many virtues. He will not precipitate anything unexpected. He is a consolidator, not a divider. He will know how to take orders and, what is more, how to execute them in what could be stormy times even for the purged party. He has the added advantage of being a Ukrainian. His presence in the second position of the party allows its integrationists to claim that it is united across both geo-political and ethnic borders.

Although he adamantly defended perestroika, democratisation and Mr Gorbachev in his pre-election address, Mr Ivashko's record tends to the conservative. He was deputy to Vladimir Shcherbitsky, the late Ukrainian Communist party leader, taking over from him last year.

He later left the party leadership to concentrate on his role as president of the republic. In the early 1980s he served for several years in Afghanistan as a political adviser to Babrak Karmal, the former leader.

Aged 57, Mr Ivashko is a native of the Ukrainian town of Poltava and trained at the Institute of Mining in Kharkov, remaining in the city to teach. He became secretary of the Dnepropetrovsk regional party in 1978 when that city was still strongly associated with Brezhnev.

As first secretary of the Ukrainian party, he initially opposed the republic's embryonic nationalist groups, so that they were able to operate openly there later than in many other republics. Subsequently, however, Rukh, the

popular front group, was able to compete in local and republic elections, winning about a third of the seats. This shift of policy marked Mr Ivashko as a political realist in the Gorbachev mould.

Mr Gorbachev probably judged that he was just conservative enough to satisfy the more moderate conservatives in the party, while appearing just reformist enough not to frighten the more moderate reformists.

His standing has not been helped, however, by his resignation as Ukrainian president 24 hours before being nominated for deputy general secretary. In his resignation letter to the Ukrainian parliament he said that he felt a lack of support from the deputies. Like other Ukrainian congress delegates who are also parliamentary deputies, he was summoned back to Kiev at the end of last week but declined to go, signalling either that his new job was already settled or that he regarded Moscow and the Communist party as more important than parliamentary institutions and the Ukraine.

This has not endeared him to his compatriots. Mykhailo Horyn, the leader of Rukh, reportedly said that "only a man who does not think about his future can abandon the post of president of a 52 million-strong nation to become deputy chairman of a party which is dying on its feet".

In the past six months Mr Ivashko has successfully been Ukrainian party leader, president of the Ukraine, and now deputy general secretary of the Soviet party.

In the light of his resignation letter to the Ukrainian parliament, his rapid job changes will suggest a record of failure in the new political circumstances. To others they will suggest an ambitious political mercenary with an eye ever to the main chance.



Ivashko: for Gorbachev he has many virtues, among them the ability to take, and execute, orders

Mongolia heralds changes

From REUTER IN ULAN BATOR

MONGOLIA celebrated its national day yesterday with a lavish display of pageantry that reached back to past glories of Genghis Khan and looked ahead to bold political reforms.

Several thousand people crowded Ulan Bator's stadium for a day of wrestling matches, archery contests and horse riding, the country's traditional sporting events.

Horsemen dressed like the Genghis Khan's "Golden Horde" of seven centuries before, rode into the stadium heralded by the taped sound of trumpets. They wore helmets and carried shields, their long capes flapping in the wind.

Mongolia, a landlocked country of just over two million people, is returning to its historical roots as it eases away from the once-tight grip of its mighty neighbour, the Soviet Union.

The memory of Genghis Khan and his vast empire was suppressed in Mongolia until recently, when the Soviet Union began to relax its hold.

The ruling Mongolian Communist Party has already yielded to pressure for reform and allowed the emergence of opposition parties. Later this month the country holds its first openly contested parliamentary elections.

The Communist party is widely expected to win the elections because of its well organised election machine and support among nomadic herdsmen who still make up a large proportion of Mongolia's scattered population.

The Mongolian Democratic party, the largest opposition group, has accused the government of election malpractice. Talks last week between the government and opposition parties made progress in averting a threatened election boycott, but it is still not known whether all of the 10 or so opposition groups will take part.

All the benefits and privileges

Mass grave in Croatia revives racial hatred

From RICHARD BASSETT AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

THE gruesome discovery of a pit full of corpses in Croatia has revived old hatreds between Croats and Serbs, who are again divided by fear and suspicion after 45 years of living in peace.

More Serbs and Croats were killed by each other than by the Nazis during the second world war. Thousands of Croat and Serb civilians were buried in pits throughout the country. In Slovenia, tens of thousands of anti-communist Slovenes, Croats and Serbs were handed over to Tito's partisans by the British Army.

Under the communists, these old wounds were carefully hidden by the language of federal communism and police repression. With the dismantling of Tito's legacy, however, they are being reopened, again the subject of public debate.

The latest pit to be discovered involves the massacre which took place at Jazovka, south of Zagreb, in 1945. Earlier this month Branko Mulic, an 80-year-old former communist, led journalists to Jazovka where, 30ft below the surface, they saw the remains of thousands of people.

Mr Mulic, with the rest of the local population, had been sworn to silence by the communists but, after Croatia's first free election toppled the communists earlier this year, he felt able to disclose his secret.

He claims he drove a lorry containing 50 Croats, many of whom had been in hospital with wounds. He says he saw them executed, wrists tied behind their backs, and pushed into the pit. Among the many discoveries made by the journalists entering the pit were pairs of crutches.

The events here were only one of a series of post-war reprisals by the communists against their ideological enemies, collaborators and rival Serbian resistance movements.

In an attempt to prevent these old wounds inciting further racial tension, Ivica Racan, leader of the reformed Croat Communist party, has invited Franjo Tudjman, the new Croat leader and a former partisan general, together with Jovan Raskovic, the leader of 600,000 Serbs living on Croat

territory, to take part in memorial services.

Mr Racan proposed services for the victims of the Jazovka pit later this month, preceded by a service at Glina, where 1,500 Serbs were massacred by Croat *ustashi* during the war.

He sees services as symbolic reconciliation similar to the service attended by 80,000 people in Slovenia last week at Kocovski Rog, the site of another pit.

Such a ceremony may, however, be postponed pending the findings of a Croat parliamentary commission ordered to investigate the identity of the victims and the circumstances of their execution.

Until it is known who the victims of the Jazovka pit were, the Serbs are not prepared to attend the service. Dr Raskovic said: "If they want me to bow at Jazovka, I shall do so only after it is ascertained who is buried there."

The Serbs cannot equate the pit at Jazovka with that at Glina. For them, the policy of the Nazi puppet Croat state was one of genocide, dwarfing the post-war reprisals of the communists. At Glina, in May 1941, 1,500 Serbs were packed into the village church thinking they were about to be converted to Catholicism. Instead the Croat *ustashi* hacked them to death.

The issue of these memorial ceremonies is only one of the painful questions posed by the discovery of these pits. There are still many survivors of the 1940s, mainly former communists, who now face awkward questions and fear revenge.

Extremist Croats are intent on exploiting the pit to whip up Croat nationalism and so settle long-standing accounts with the communists.

Silva Meznaric, a Croat sociologist, said: "These old fears could have fatal consequences for Croatia's young democracy. Pits are symbols of negative emotion. The best thing is to bring everything out into the open."

But today's dilemma in Yugoslavia is how to come to terms with the pits without provoking a new wave of vengeance and racial hatred.

Italy braces for flood of refugees

By PETER GREEN IN BRINDISI AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A FLOTILLA of four French and Italian ships carrying 4,803 Albanian refugees who have spent the last two weeks holed up in Western embassies in Tirana was expected today at this Italian port town after a 75-mile mercy dash across the Adriatic.

This will be the largest mass exodus from Europe's last bastion of hardline communism since the late Enver Hoxha and his Albanian communists abolished the monarchy of King Zog and took power in 1946.

The convoy of three Italian ferry ships — the Appia, the Espresso Grecia and, if needed, the Cefalonia — and a French cruise liner, the Maltese-flagged Orient Star, was expected to bring the refugees here from Durres, an Albanian port about 15 miles from the capital Tirana. An Italian military source said the relief ships were to be escorted by navy patrol boats after leaving Albanian territorial waters.

About 800 of the refugees on board were in the Italian embassy, 2,000 in the French embassy, and another 2,000 in the West German embassy in Tirana. Forty refugees from the Hungarian embassy were also expected to be in the relief convoy, a Hungarian foreign ministry official said in Budapest yesterday.

First reports say there are some ill and wounded among the refugees, as well as a newborn baby and two pregnant

women. A spokesman for the Brindisi port authority said there was at least one doctor in each ship, and that more doctors from the Italian Red Cross and military would be waiting on the quayside with ambulances.

The French ship, which left from the Greek port of Patras yesterday morning, was carrying food supplies and a 45-member team of French doctors and government representatives.

According to Italian press reports, refugees from the French embassy will change ship at Brindisi and continue on to Marseille.

About 2,500 of the refugees will be taken by three West German Bundeswehr trains to West Germany, where they will be allowed to stay up to six months while deciding to apply for political asylum in Germany, or elsewhere. Most of the refugees are expected to apply for entry to the United States or Canada.

The remaining 850 refugees are expected to be housed in pre-fabricated huts and old army barracks at a disused Italian army training base at Restinco, six miles inland from Brindisi.

A welcome for the refugees is being co-ordinated among the large Italian community of Albanian origin in southern Italy.

Meanwhile, Albanians from the first group of asylum-seekers allowed to leave the country on Monday for Czechoslovakia said yesterday in Prague that the pending mass exodus could mark the end of the communist regime in Albania.

"I give communism in my country one or two years," said Kola, a 36-year-old construction worker who is housed together with 50 other Albanians in a workers' barracks on the outskirts of Prague. Like others, he declined to give his full name out of fear of possible reprisals against his family at home.

Thousands of people have been sleeping rough in embassy corridors and gardens in Tirana, repeating the scenes in Eastern Europe last year which rapidly led to the collapse of communism in East Germany.

Diplomats are worried that as the embassies empty, more Albanians desperate to leave their country's prison camp-like conditions might flood into the embassies.

Cash shortage taxes beleaguered Communist party

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE primacy of economics over politics is a Marxist tenet drummed into every Soviet schoolchild. But the day could be near when the theory is translated into reality in the most embarrassing of ways: the Soviet Communist party has a cash crisis.

Addressing the party's congress in Moscow yesterday, President Gorbachev said the party would have to face the fact that its income next year will probably be halved, to around 1.5 billion rubles (\$1.5 billion). It would have to economise and learn to pay its way, he warned.

The sudden fall in funds is a result of the decision earlier this year to deprive the party of its guaranteed "leading role" in society. This has brought it into the Soviet legal system for the first time, a system which has gained many new provisions in the past year.

The Communist party will be taxed on its income, the bulk of which is made up of membership dues. As a public organisation, it will also be taxed on any profits, at the corporate rate of 45 per cent.

Also, the party must pay pensions to its full-time workers who retire under a new pensions law which introduces contributory pensions.

Falling membership is another main cause of the predicted fall in income. More than 130,000 people have left the party this year, taking their subscriptions with them.

That was before the exodus which followed the election of Ivan Polozkov to head the new Russian Federation Communist party last month and before any further exodus by frustrated reformers after the party congress.

Dues are not especially onerous — they start at ten kopeks (ten pence) a month for the lowest paid, up to three per cent of income for the

highest paid — 24 rubles for someone earning 800 rubles a month. But in a country of 19 million party members, they mount up.

The party is now adjusting the level of dues in an attempt to stem the departures, and this will bring a reduction for all except the best paid members. Its total income will still go down, however, even in the unlikely event that membership holds steady.

A change in regulations introduced this week also allows long-standing party members who are past retirement age or who fall ill to be exempted from paying dues. In some party organisations they will form a sizeable group.

The new party rules propose in addition a redistribution of the party's income which will leave lower level organisations with the right to retain a proportion of their income rather than receiving discretionary sums from the centre.

Taken together, the changes will leave very many party organisations worse off and could leave the central party machine in a precarious state.

In rural areas, where party organisations are small and income from dues low regional committees are already having to disband.

A delegate from Siberia said yesterday that 26 out of 28 party organisations in his area had closed. Others painted a similar picture.

The closure of local party organisations with full-time employees creates a vicious circle, because the party at the centre is committed to maintaining employees who are made redundant.

The squeeze on party funds will not only mean the ruin of smaller and poorer organisations. It will also mean that richer organisations and the central apparatus will not be able to keep itself in the manner to which it is accustomed.

All the benefits and privileges

which Boris Yeltsin and others have so condemned — the special clinics, special shops, special housing and special cars — all have a price, and that price may prove too high.

Popular pressure has done much to draw attention to the unequal quality of the party's elite, and a curtailing of privileges has begun, but in a token way.

A few country dachas have been handed over for use as sanatoriums or orphanages and an edict has been issued ordering economies on private cars.

But as rank and file delegates have noted during the congress the sleek black limousines in their dozens are still delivering honoured passengers to the Kremlin every morning.

When one such delegate announced that he would love to walk if only he had the time, the odd jeering whistle could be heard from those in the hall who are obliged to walk.

Kaifu revives Japan's pride with summit triumphs

From JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

JAPAN is rejoicing in its new-found diplomatic effectiveness at the Houston economic summit.

Yesterday the Japanese were marvelling at the feats of their prime minister in Texas. In past years they were grateful if their man at the summit could get within a few feet of the American president in the formal photo-opportunity, and board the plane home without having offended anyone. In Texas, Toshiki Kaifu not only spoke up for Japan, he came away with most of what he wanted.

The more confident, assertive voice resulted partly from the issues on the agenda. Tokyo was ready to take a stand on China and the Soviet Union, both close to its heart and to its borders, even at the risk of ruffling some of its allies.

But the summit was also a testing ground for Japan's new school of diplomacy, designed to push Japan more into the international spotlight and to make sure the country's interests are not lost as the West turns its attention to the new dawn in Europe. The policy aims to make it clear that the

US and Europe cannot expect a timid Tokyo to keep writing cheques for everything without having a say in how the money is spent.

Japan used to feel that it was treated a bit like a rich but friendless teenager who is invited along to parties because he has a car to drive everyone home afterwards. Tokyo was often tongue-tied. But, at the Houston summit, Japan was ready to go its own way, willing to tell its allies that it was resuming lending to China and that it could not dream of giving Japanese taxpayers' money to Moscow as long as the Soviet Union holds on to four Kurile islands off northern Japan, which the Japanese consider to be theirs.

Japanese officials credit Mr Kaifu with persuading the summit nations to say specifically that they would "respond to further positive developments in China". Japanese newspapers made inch-high headlines of the mention in Houston of Japan's territorial spat with Moscow, although the press here turned a rather ambiguous comment on the need for the dispute to be resolved into a ringing endorsement of Japan's claim to the islands.

Although President Mitterrand criticised Japan for softening towards China and for offering a cold shoulder to Moscow, the summit members seem to have realised that Tokyo is too rich and too powerful to boss around, especially now that dwindling military tension between East and West has given extra world clout to those countries with fat wallets.

Mr Kaifu, plucked from obscurity last autumn to take over the reins, has proved to be just the man for the job. He is articulate and relaxed, willing to play cowboy for the cameras in Texas. He was expected to remain as prime minister for as long as it took the ruling Liberal Democratic party's old guard to reassert control after the Recruit bribery scandal.

Realising he had little future, Mr Kaifu decided he had nothing to lose in making one for himself. He has travelled at every chance, shaking hands with the world's high and mighty. He has bartered with President Bush over US-Japan trade friction and then badgered bureaucrats to reach compromises. He has spoken to the public in refreshingly plain Japanese and they have responded by voting him the most popular prime minister for decades.

But Mr Kaifu is far from the main architect of the new diplomacy; the intellectual heart of the assault was mapped out in a recent article by Takakazu Kuriyama, one of the foreign ministry's top policymakers, in the semi-official *Gaiko Forum* magazine.

Mr Kuriyama pointed out that the time had come for Japan to behave like a major power when charting foreign policy, though he added that it had to ally the fears of Asian neighbours who still recall what happened the last time Japan flexed its muscles. Mr Kuriyama argues that "the era when the United States could by itself support the international political and economic orders is long past and world peace and prosperity today rests in the co-operative structure of Japan, the United States and Western Europe."

Space race setback for Tokyo

From JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

JAPAN'S attempt to join the elite group of countries with independent space technology, enabling it to compete for a share of the world's satellite launching business, suffered a setback yesterday when its new generation of large H2 booster rockets failed engine tests.

The National Space Development Agency said the failure could delay the H2's planned launch in early 1993.

The problem provides an awkward start for Rocket Systems, the new consortium formed by some of Japan's largest industrial and electronics companies to take over part of Japan's fledgling space industry from the government. It wants eventually to challenge the established agencies such as ArianeSpace in France and others in America, the Soviet Union and China.

Rocket Systems, led by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, is pinning its fortunes on the home-grown H2 rocket to take the commercial satellite launching business from its rivals. Its predecessor, the H1, was a McDonnell Douglas clone. However, an engine test on the new rocket late last year that burnt down the test centre has been just one of a series of embarrassing hiccups.

In the latest failure the H2's main engine, the LE7, caught fire during ground combustion tests at the Tanegashima space centre in Kagoshima, southern Japan. The engine was shut down three-quarters of the way through a 200-second continuous burn test when the fire was spotted.

If the rocket does get off the ground in 1993, it will be able to put into orbit satellites weighing up to 2.2 tonnes, the same as Ariane 4 and close to the 2.4 tonnes of the US space shuttle.

'Dartman' is charged

New York — Police here said yesterday that they have charged Jerome Wright, aged 33, with being "Dartman", who terrorised women in Manhattan by blowing homemade darts into their bottoms. The police said Mr Wright, a messenger, had been charged with reckless endangerment, possession of a dangerous device and harassment in three of 52 attacks in the past two weeks. (Reuters)

Mayor's boycott

Jerusalem — Teddy Kolek, the Israeli mayor of Jerusalem, will boycott a Bastille Day reception tomorrow night, accusing the French consulate of "apartheid" by inviting Jews and Arabs to separate functions. (Reuters)

Economic trial

Nicosia — Ali Sharifiyun was tried with 27 accomplices in the holy city of Qom in the first of what officials said would be a series of public trials of "economic terrorists". He was sent to jail for 20 years. (Reuters)

Key bridge shut

Kufstein — Austria closed a bridge on an important road linking north and south Europe in this town west of Salzburg. The closure came after the discovery that an 80 ft support pillar had sunk nearly 2 ft. (Reuters)

Airbus back

Delhi — The Indian Airlines Airbus-320 jetliners grounded after a fatal crash last February will return to service next week. (AP)

Bully boys

Tokyo — To punish them for bullying, teachers buried two teenage schoolboys up to the neck on a beach as waves rolled in, a newspaper reported. (AFP)

Spy suspect

Karlsruhe — Reinhold G, aged 55, a pensioner suspected of spying for East Germany for more than 30 years, has been arrested. (Reuters)

Unwanted guests

East Berlin — Potsdam has discovered that Hitler and Goering are still honorary citizens and is to revoke the titles. (Reuters)



How the West was won: a Japanese painter reflects Mr Kaifu's tough new image

Arson evidence found as fires ravage France

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

AS THE worst summer fires for several years ravage large areas in the south of France, consuming forests, vineyards and holiday sites, there is evidence that numerous blazes have been started by arsonists.

Police investigators, who discovered seven tennis balls at the scene of what turned into a particularly serious fire, suspect they had been filled with petrol, then ignited and tossed onto bone-dry undergrowth.

A blackened petrol can has also been recovered where a fire roared through 120 acres of fruit trees. One fire station in the worst affected area of Provence has received anonymous calls predicting the exact location at which a new blaze can be expected.

The calls are always made on the emergency 18 line, and invariably come in the afternoon, when the mistral wind blows hot and hard. Whoever is making them clearly knows the area. "The bastard is always right," said one exhausted fireman in Bormes-les-Mimosas.

The fires have enraged farmers, property owners and holidaymakers. A Bormes police officer observed: "Any-

one caught in the act of setting a fire round here risks being lynched." A fireman who shares the widespread view that any arsonists are likely to be locals told the newspaper *Libération*: "People here will slap their foreheads and say, 'I would never have believed it was him.'"

The authorities are becoming desperately overstretched. Every available fireman is working in the Bouches-du-Rhône region, where fires are beginning to lick at the outskirts of Marseilles, and another 750 have been rushed in from neighbouring regions. The fleet of "water bombers" is flying missions after missions in increasingly hazardous conditions.

On the ground, firemen toil around the clock in appalling heat, at the mercy of sudden wind shifts that can send flames leaping over firebreaks and eight-lane motorways. Four firemen died when their vehicle was trapped between two fires.

The ecological impact has been cruel. The severe drought that has gripped much of the Midi over the past year has been damaging enough, but a few more weeks of serious fires would be disastrous.

Swedes condemn Baghdad hanging

From REUTER IN STOCKHOLM

SWEDEN recalled its ambassador from Iraq yesterday after Baghdad, ignoring appeals for clemency, hanged an Iraqi-born Swedish citizen accused of spying for Israel.

Sten Andersson, the foreign minister, said Sweden strongly condemned "the execution of Jalil Mehdi al-Neamy, accused by Iraq of spying on Palestinians on behalf of the Israeli intelligence service, Mossad."

Mr Andersson said Mr Neamy, a naturalised Swede, was hanged on Wednesday. A revolutionary court in Baghdad had sentenced him to death on April 30. He said that, during pre-trial questioning and the two-day trial, Mr Neamy had admitted working for Mossad, and had not retracted the admission when talking to Swedish diplomats.

Mr Andersson said in a statement: "The execution of the Swedish citizen al-Neamy must be strongly condemned. Our ambassador in Baghdad, Henrik Amneus, has been recalled for consultations in view of the execution. Relations between Sweden and Iraq have been seriously harmed by this," he added.

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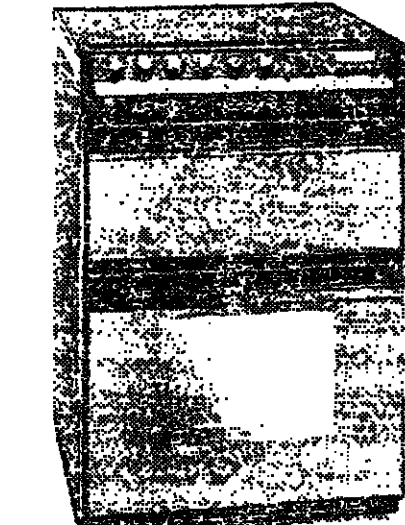
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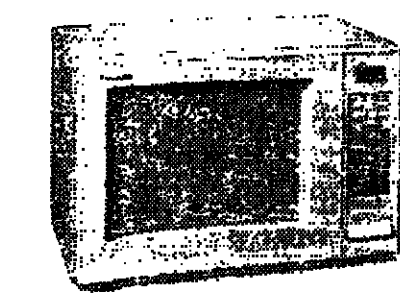
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Old pros and cold prose

Philip Howard

Anyone here been raped and speaks English? Edward Behr took the title of his book, published in 1978, from an all too credible incident at an airport in the Congo, when a British television reporter approached groups of Belgian refugees fleeing from rebel troops. You have to be very thick and blinkered (lots of us are) to work in the media and not realise that the general public is in two minds about our activities. It loves us and loathes us. In millions it tunes into blithering rubbish and buys so-called newspapers that citizens of any other country in the world, including the countries regularly abused for being backward (i.e. not English) by the comically bigoted British press, would be embarrassed to be seen carrying. It makes instant megastars of idiot autocue-readers for doing no more than smiling cheekily or parroting some identifying catchphrase, and then takes malicious pleasure in reading that they have feet (or more intimate parts) of clay. We eat our cake, and have it. We read or watch the pernicious garbage in millions, and then grumble that it is all lies. We buy it, but then if we get a chance to sit on a libel jury, we award grotesquely excessive damages against any newspaper in sight, to demonstrate that we disapprove of our taste.

There is nothing new in our ambivalence about our press. Trollope, totem of the old-fogey right, deplored *The Jupiter*, but was obsessed by it. The press (and other media) are a disgrace. They always have been. They are the mirror in which we see unattractive aspects of our characters. What is new is a fierce circulation war for survival across the whole field, and the emergence at the bottom end of the market of things that are not newspapers at all. Nor are the creatures who write stories about "Granny was made pregnant by an alien from outer space" journalists. But, *pace* Calcutt, the way to deal with the nuisance is not by legislation.

We spent many centuries, and much defiance, prison, persecution and death, establishing the freedom of the press. Delicensing the press contributed more to liberty than Magna Carta. Freedom of the press is our main shield against tyranny. To hand back part of that freedom to politicians and judges is a step back to the Dark Ages. They are the last people to be trusted with such matters. The robust, and correct, reply by proprietors and editors to siren calls that they reform themselves or be reformed by legislation is: "Legislate and be damned."

The fundamental change that has happened to newspapers in our generation, "see change" in the hack's irresistible cliché, far more startling than the grotti-

fication at the gutter end of the market, is that people have stopped buying the newspapers for news. We get our news more quickly and more dramatically by television and radio these days. There is also a lot more of the stuff around. Manufacture of the news has increased exponentially. The days when the black-tied BBC wireless announcer would say, "There are no more news tonight, so I am going to play some Mozart until the end of the bulletin" have long gone. Sales of serious newspapers still rise in times of war, disaster, fall of governments. But Old Hack's Saw No 94, "News Sells Papers", is no longer the entire truth. Features sell papers. Listings sell papers. Naked ladies sell papers. Idiot lotteries giving away pots of money (never quite as much money as the advertising suggests) sell papers. But these old verities of Fleet Street are obsolete. They always were.

Journalism has been professionalised over the past generation, in the same way that the Roman army was professionalised by the emperors. The Romans were like brothers in the brave days of old. Citizens who could provide a suit of armour were the infantry; the rich ones who could provide a horse were the cavalry; and those who were too poor to do either were the skirmishers, chucking stones. When Augustus introduced a standing army, the old amateur citizen army was replaced by mercenaries, in much the same way that the old amateur athletics were being replaced by professional foulings in the gladiatorial arena. I am afraid that the imperial legions would have thrashed the old republican citizen's army: their weapons and tactics were state-of-the-art. But they had lost some of the amateur spirit.

Similarly, a generation ago, journalists were amateurs who had got into the business by accident. Graham Greene, and later Harry Keating, were scribbling detective stories during quiet periods on the foreign subs' table. The rest were translating Plato into Chinese. Everybody was writing. I have never seen the point of a non-writing journo. Today there are no quiet periods at the foreign subs' table. They sit staring into their screens for longer than is good for them. The trade has become professionalised and specialised. The days of the amateur citizen, who could turn out a nice news piece or leader fast, or sub copy and headline it, or stone it, as occasion demanded, have gone. A cadre of non-writing journalists, who have ideas for other journalists to write, and talk them through the process, and then get them to rewrite, has grown up. We are more professional. But we have lost some of the amateur style and fun.

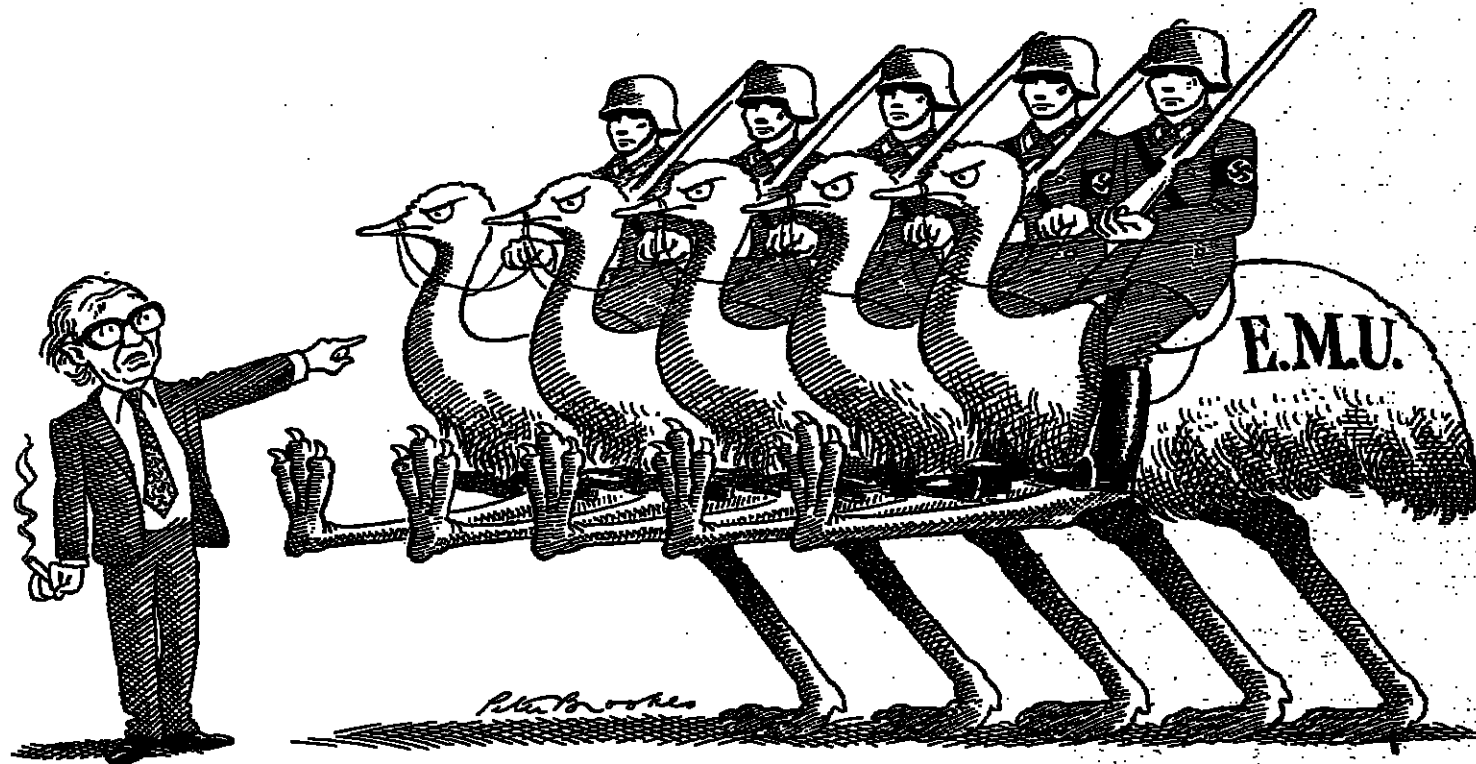
Amid sound and fury, real truth about Europe united

Nicholas Ridley's outburst was necessary. It has alerted the British public to the scale of the hijack now intended by the "reject politicians" of Brussels. There is no doubt that Jacques Delors and Sir Leon Brittan (among other employees of the European Commission) want a unified European state in which Britain would have lost its sovereignty and independence. Indeed, in some of their recent speeches M Delors and Sir Leon have scarcely bothered to deny that their eventual goal is a United States of Europe in which the nations will have been reduced to the status of regions.

The puzzle is that this drastic redefinition of who we are and how we relate to our neighbours has not been more noticed. For some time M Delors, Sir Leon and their associates have been busy on a process of so-called "federalism by stealth". Leaders of nations make vague statements of commitment at European summits, which they discover, some months later, oblige them to accept detailed legislation in areas previously the responsibility of national parliaments. Little by little the European Commission has been invading Britain, assuming powers which for centuries have been our own. Slowly and discreetly, in committee rooms late at night, Brussels has been stealing authority from Westminster. At least Mr Ridley has brought the subject to the centre of the political debate. If we are to submerge our national identity in a larger European mass, we will at least now be doing it while we are awake and alert.

But much of Mr Ridley's interview with *The Spectator* was ludicrous. In particular, the references to Germany as the ocre of Europe and to the Bundesbank's financial prowess as the key weapon in a new German drive for European domination were exaggerated to the point of absurdity. They were grossly unfair in neglecting the contribution Germany has made to the prosperity and stability of the post-war world. They were also factually wrong, in overlooking facts about the monetary history of the 20th century.

Mr Ridley said that a joint European monetary policy was "a German racket designed to take over the whole of Europe" and claimed that "the deutschmark is



Tim Congdon commends Nicholas Ridley for focusing the nation's attention on the march of federalism

always going to be the strongest currency, because of their habits" (the magazine's emphasis).

Now this misses a vital detail, that — of all the many organisations and institutions on the European continent affected by possible monetary union — the Bundesbank has traditionally been one of the most sceptical. It is well known that, at least until nine months ago, Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank's president, was on good terms with Mrs Thatcher, because both shared grave doubts about the viability of a single European currency. It is also a matter of undoubted public record that throughout the Eighties the Bundesbank discouraged the private use of the ecu in West Germany. It is odd, to say the least, that currency imperialism should be described by Mr Ridley as a German "habit".

Yet, more seriously, Mr Ridley seems to have forgotten his modern history. He talked as if he thought German monetary machismo was — dare one use the phrase — genetically determined

and historically inevitable. (Editor of *The Spectator*: "But Mr Ridley, it's surely not axiomatic that the German currency will always be the strongest?" Mr Ridley: "It's because of the Germans.")

But German money machismo is not genetically determined and historically inevitable. In 1922 and 1923 the Weimar hyperinflation inflicted on Germany an episode of total currency disintegration. Although France and Italy have suffered hyperinflation in the 20th century, they were mild compared with Weimar. In fact, it is Britain that is unusual among the large nations of Europe in never having had a hyperinflation. Until 1945 — and arguably until the dissolution of the sterling area in the late Sixties — other European nations could quite reasonably have accused us of currency imperialism.

Moreover, Mr Ridley also failed to remember the main achievement of the Thatcher government. Like the enthusiasts for British

participation in the European monetary system, he took it for granted that West Germany had always had a lower inflation rate than Britain and that an inflation gap in favour of Germany would continue for the foreseeable future. He did not deny that British membership of the EMS would cut inflation. In this respect he was at one with the great army of economic commentators and advisers who campaign for early EMS entry.

But they — and, less excusably, Mr Ridley — are suffering from collective amnesia. Has everyone forgotten what happened in the first five years of the Thatcher government? Between 1979 and 1983 Britain reduced its inflation rate far more than any other European country. In the three years, 1983, 1984 and 1985, British inflation was lower than the European average. Indeed, in 1983 there was virtually no difference between retail price inflation in West Germany and Britain. And all this was achieved while Britain was not a member

of the exchange rate mechanism of the EMS.

As Mrs Thatcher and her cabinet colleagues, including the particularly articulate Nigel Lawson, told the world, Britain had reduced inflation because it had controlled the money supply. Nor is there any secret about why British inflation has subsequently risen towards 10 per cent, while German inflation has remained at minimal levels. It is because Britain stopped controlling the money supply in 1985, whereas the Bundesbank continued to pursue deliberate money supply targets.

Mr Ridley has rightly alerted the British to a genuine threat to independence, but he has misunderstood the causes of inflation. It is not the result of national "habits", racial characteristics, tabular manners, xenophobia, nationalism, an urge to dominate the rest of Europe or anything of the sort. It is the result of excessive growth of the money supply. If the Bundesbank could teach that lesson to the leaders of the Conservative party (or rather teach it to them once again), it would do something more for the prosperity and stability of modern Europe. The author is economic adviser to Gerrard and National Holdings.

Germany's 'habits' — what Ridley said

An abridged version of the minister's combative interview with the editor of *The Spectator*, Dominic Lawson

Nicholas Ridley has a passion for illusion in painting but it is most definitely only a pastime. In modern political life there is no more brutal practitioner of the home truth. Not even Mrs Thatcher — whose own views owe much to his — is more averse to hiding the hard facts behind a patina of sympathy or politician's charm. In a mirror world Nicholas Ridley would be Cecil Parkinson.

Even knowing this, I was taken aback by the vehemence of his views on Europe, and in particular the role of Germany. It had seemed a topical way to engage his thoughts, since the day after we met, Herr Karl Otto Pöhl, the president of the Bundesbank, was visiting Britain to preach the joys of a joint European monetary policy.

"This is all a German racket designed to take over the whole of Europe. It has to be thwarted. This rushed takeover by the Germans on the worst possible basis, with the French behaving like poodles to the Germans, is absolutely intolerable."

"Excuse me, but in what way are moves toward monetary union 'the Germans trying to take over the whole of Europe'?"

"The deutschmark is always going to be the strongest currency, because of their habits."

"But Mr Ridley, it's surely not axiomatic that the German currency will always be the strongest?" "It's because of the Germans."

"But the European Community is not just the Germans..." "When I look at the institutions to which it is proposed that sovereignty is to be handed over, I'm agast. Seventeen unelected reject politicians — that includes you, Sir Leon — "with no accountability to anybody, who are not responsible for raising taxes, just spending money, who are pandered to by a supine parliament which also is not responsible for raising taxes, already behaving with an arrogance I find breathtaking — the idea that one says, 'OK, we'll give this lot our sovereignty', is unacceptable to me. I'm not against giving up sovereignty in principle, but not to this lot. You might just as well give it to Adolf Hitler, frankly."

We were back to Germany

again, and I was still the devil's — if not Hitler's — advocate.

"Well Hitler was elected."

"But he was, at least he was... but I didn't agree with him — but that's another matter."

"But surely Herr Kohl is preferable to Herr Hitler. He's not going to bomb us, after all."

"I'm not sure I wouldn't rather have... — I thought for one giddy moment, as Mr Ridley paused to stub out his *nth* cigarette, that he would mention the name of the last Chancellor of a united Germany — "er... the shelters and the chance to fight back, than simply being taken over by... economics. He'll soon be coming here and trying to say that this is what we should do on the banking front and this is what our taxes should be. I mean, he'll soon be trying to take over everything."

"Aren't your views coloured by the fact that you can remember the second world war?"

"Jolly good thing too. About time somebody said that. It was pretty nasty. Only two months ago

I was in Auschwitz, Poland. Next week I'm in Czechoslovakia. You ask them what they think about the second world war. It's useful to remember..."

But how relevant to us, now, was what Germany did to Eastern Europe in the war?"

"We've always played the balance of power in Europe. It has always been Britain's role to keep these various powers balanced, and never has it been more necessary than now, with Germany so uppity."

"But suppose we don't have the balance of power; would the German economy run Europe?" "I don't know about the German economy. It's the German people. They're already running most of the Community. I mean they pay half of the countries. Ireland gets 6 per cent of their gross domestic product this way. When's Ireland going to stand up to the Germans?"

"The point is that when it comes to 'shall we apply more squeeze to the economy or shall we let up a

bit?' this is essentially about political accountability. The way I put it is this: can you imagine me going to Jarrold in 1930 and saying, 'Look boys, there's a general election coming up, I know half of you are unemployed and starving and the soup kitchen's down the road. But we're not going to talk about those things, because they're for Herr Pöhl and the Bundesbank. It's his fault; he controls that; if you want to protest about that, you'd better get on to Herr Pöhl'?"

There might be more financial discipline in a British economy run under the influence of men like Herr Pöhl, Mr Ridley agreed. But, he added, suddenly looking up at me through his bifocals, "There could also be a bloody revolution. You can't change the British people for the better by saying, 'Herr Pöhl says you can't do that.' They'd say, 'You know what you can do with your bloody Herr Pöhl.' I mean, you don't understand the British people if you don't understand this point about them. They can be dared; they can be moved. But being bossed by a German — it would cause absolute mayhem in this country, and rightly, I think."

...and moreover

ALAN COREN

This morning, I shall have to proceed with particular caution. For mine is a highly sophisticated readership, and I say this not simply to butter it up, although, admittedly, it can't hurt to butter it up a bit, given where its sophistication might very well lead it, should my particular caution not come up to snuff. That is because my readership is so sophisticated that it knows what the Delphic audience did to Aesop when they took against the moralistic tone of his writings. They chuckled him over a cliff.

Ever since then, those with a fable to offload have had to proceed with particular caution. Doing it somewhere cliffless is a good start, but the best thing is a good finish, and a good finish means: no moral. Nothing in italics at the end, pointing the audience towards the homiletic pith. That is what got up their noses at Delphi. Nobody likes being told what they are supposed to have understood.

So what follows is just a fable. Make of it what you will. You will get no help from me. It is called *The Fox and the Cellophane*.

There was once a man who found himself, on a sunny July morning, standing on Kentish Town Railway Station. Kentish Town Railway Station is part of Network SouthEast, which is what the man himself wanted to be, only nothing came to net him and work him towards Crickwood. He had been standing on the platform, alone, for 20 minutes, and this conjunction of time and solitude bothered him not a little, because he had seen *North by North-West*, and — being a susceptible sort of a man — he kept squinting up at the sky, just in case a biplane had any plans to dive on to him. You never knew, it was a funny old world, and just because you were going south by SouthEast, it didn't mean you shouldn't remain on your guard.

At the 21st minute, the man became aware of something approaching, down the track. It was not a train, it was not even a biplane coming in at zero altitude, it was a fox. It was trotting alongside the live rail, with a rat in its mouth. When it saw the man, it stopped. The man knew there was no point in

asking it whether it had seen anything of the 10.14, because foxes have got smarter since Aesop's day and they know that if they open their mouths to speak, their food will drop out, and they are not going to be caught that way twice.

Something, however, did speak. It said "bloody hell", and when the man turned, he saw that he had been joined by another man, thirty-ish, snappily suited, who must have just come up the stairs from the booking-office. "Look at that," he continued, "I think I'd better tell someone about that," and he ran down the stairs again. At the clatter, the fox turned, and began trotting back the way it had come.

The second man returned, flushed, clearly angry. "They don't give a toss! he cried. 'They say they get foxes here all the time. I pointed out all the risks, but they don't give a toss.'"

"More than their job's worth, no doubt," said the man from Crickwood, in jocular vein, for he did not wish to offend the stranger, who, despite the smart cut of his jib, might well be a homicidal crop-duster who had parked his biplane round the corner to divert suspicion.

"Not only could it cause a derailment," said the stranger, "it is a dangerous and verminous animal. We have," he added, "just moved in here. We've got small children! I'm phoning the council!"

Whereupon he opened his briefcase, took out a portable telephone, and began punching buttons. That he knew the council's number was not lost on the first man: here, clearly, was someone who got things done.

But not always. For, after a moment or two, the stranger swore, and shook the phone. "Sodding battery's flat," he said. "Can you believe it?" The man from Crickwood might have replied, had the train, at that moment, not appeared, encouraging the distant fox to hop delicately off the track and disappear. He might also have wondered which of his two new companions was the more likely to survive in Kentish Town. But he would not, of course, have said anything, because the area was unfamiliar to him, and could well have a cliff somewhere.

Bavaria is not amused

Nicholas Ridley's vivid remarks have caused embarrassment far beyond the corridors of power in Bonn and Westminster. In the Bavarian town of Miesbach, near Munich, the good burghers met yesterday in emergency session to discuss the secretary of state's views and decided to invite him over to discuss Anglo-German relations. They have a particular reason for taking offence at Ridley's remarks: for more than a decade the town has been twinned with Tewkesbury, one of the principal towns in Ridley's Gloucestershire constituency. Schoolchildren, farmers, local government officials and councillors have enjoyed regular exchange visits and — as fate would have it — the latest batch of Tewkesbury worthies goes over this weekend.

Karla Schroten, chairwoman of Miesbach's twinning committee interrupted the meeting triggered by the remarks to extend an invitation to Ridley. "I think it would be good for him to come and talk to us," she says. "We are not political and we should not overestimate what he says, but we have been talking about it here and we would like to hear it from himself."

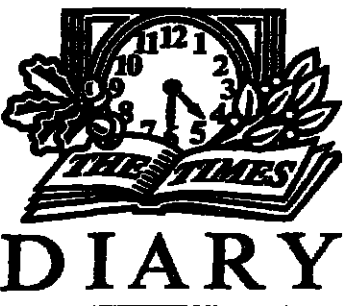
The mayor of Tewkesbury, Brenda Evans, expressed indignation as she packed her bags in preparation for the visit starting today. "We have always enjoyed excellent relations with the people of Miesbach," she says. "I think he's a very stupid man who spoke without thinking. He should get

his brain into gear before he opens his mouth." Mrs Evans will not be bearing a goodwill message to Bavaria from Ridley, who has never shown any interest in the link. "We have written to him on many occasions about the twinning," she says, "but he has never even bothered to reply."

● Tory MP Julian Critchley is convinced that Nicholas Ridley knew exactly what he was doing when he gave *The Spectator* the benefit of his views on Germany. "He knew he would be in Hungary at the time, where he could apply for political asylum," he says.

Lloyd's of Romania

The Prince of Wales is not going to like this. Thanks to his sparring partners at the Royal Institute of British Architects, the skyline of Bucharest may in time be disfigured by a Romanian equivalent of the modernist Lloyd's building. Two dozen Romanian architectural students are in London as guests of Riba, enjoying such showpieces as the Tower of London and Buckingham Palace. Elegant palaces, however, are two a penny in Bucharest, and the Romanians have been far more impressed by the futuristic facade of the Lloyd's building. Lorand Csaszai, who has been placed for the month with a Surrey architectural practice, says: "There's nothing like that in Bucharest. We haven't such high technology. He will go home with a personal mission to build a similar structure. But even if the technology catches up, the political climate may be against him. The Ion Mincu school of



architecture in Bucharest, which the students attend, was attacked by miners in last month's riots. What chance Prince Charles and his supporters storming the portals of Riba?

Writer's block

Laurie Lee's muse has been temporarily silenced for want of a pencil, and word processors, dictation machines and the other wonders of modern technology cannot come to his aid. The author of *Cider with Rosie*, now 75, is suffering from arthritis so severe that it has crippled his hands. "I can't use a computer or typewriter and I'm useless at dictation," he says from his snug at the Chelsea Arts Club. "I like the physical act of writing. I like to feel the pencil in my hands. Without that I can't write." His last composition before the onset of the ailment was an appeal to a supermarket chain not to fell a dozen trees in his native Gloucestershire. "I think that I shall never see, a Tesco lovely as a tree; And if we're forced to cut ours down, I'll shame the gateway to our town."

"I am taking medical advice and I hope to have my hands repaired soon," Lee says. "I hope they cut them both off and replace them with Shakespeare's."

Soft foot forward

The American Ballet Theatre, currently performing at the London Coliseum, has reacted angrily to suggestions in *The Times* and elsewhere that audiences have commented on noisy landings after jumps and to suggestions that inferior American ballet shoes are to blame. "The company is no more noisy than



anyone else," says a spokesman *sotto voce*. Moreover, the company dances in English ballet shoes, from Freed of London, for the past 40 years makers of shoes to the Royal Ballet and every other international ballet company except the Russians. Soviet dancers, as a result, are known to be the noisiest dancers. "Their shoes are harder under the soles," says a spokeswoman from Freed, who describes the Kirov Ballet as particularly noisy. A pair of shoes from Freed is one

of the prizes awaiting defecting dancers, and its London shop was almost the first stop on arrival in the West by Natalia Makarova. But despite the Americans' protestations, the shoe company admits critics may have a point. "The Americans can be noisier as they like very square platforms and fairly hard shoes," says a Freed spokeswoman. The lesson seems to be to book a back seat.

Hair raising

For only the second time since Margaret Thatcher came to power, one of her ministers is sporting a beard. The prime minister's aversion to whiskers is well known, and few on the Tory benches are anything but close-shaven. Welsh Office minister Ian Grist, who has just returned to ministerial duties after breaking his ankle, is now hobbling around the House not only with a walking stick but sporting open sandals and a new beard. The spectacle has been greeted with horror in the government whips' office. "When the sandals and stick disappear, the beard has to go too," says one. But has the prime minister yet seen the change in one of her most loyal lieutenants? "No," she has not. Says the whips' office. "She has been in Houston."

Grist's friends are strongly advising the application of a razor before the mini-resuffle later this month. They point to the experiences of John Gummer, who had the temerity to grow a beard while chairman of the party. Demotion to the environment department quickly followed, and elevation to the cabinet was delayed until well after the beard had gone.



COURT CIRCULAR

PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE

July 12: The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, this morning opened St John's Hospital, Howden, Livingston New Town, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for West Lothian (the Earl of Morton).

Escorted by Dr John Boydman (Chairman, Lothian Health Authority), Her Majesty, with His Royal Highness, toured the Hospital and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, then drove to the Headquarters of East Lothian Development Corporation and, having been received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Lothian (Colonel the Lord Clydesdale), honoured the Chairman of the Corporation (Mr J. Allan Denholm) with her presence at lunch.

The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, subsequently visited the Plaza Shopping Mall, opened and toured the Olympia Centre and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Afterwards, The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, opened and toured the new Headquarters of Strathclyde Fire Brigade at Hamilton (Firemaster C. B. Halliday) and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The Secretary of State for Scotland (the Right Hon Malcolm Rifkind, MP), the Countess of Airlie, Sir Kenneth Scott, Mr Robin Jarman, Mr Charles Anson and Wing Commander David Walker, RAF, were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Member, attended a dinner given by the Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh, at the Merchants' Hall, Hanover Street, Edinburgh.

His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Edinburgh (Mrs Eleanor McLaughlin, the Right Hon the Lord Provost) and Sir Peter Healy (Master).

Major Sir Guy Acland, Bt and Lieutenant-Commander Malcolm Sillars, RN, were in attendance.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother has left the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 12: The Duke and Duchess of York today visited Yorkshire to attend The Great Yorkshire Show. Their Royal Highnesses were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for North Yorkshire (Sir Marcus Worsley, Bt).

Mrs John Spooner and Captain Alexander Baillie-Hamilton were in attendance.

The Princess Royal today visited Ross and Cromarty and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Ross and Cromarty (Captain J. Macmillan, Bt).

Her Royal Highness opened the new District Council Offices at Dingwall and visited the Riding for the Disabled Association Gymkhana at Nova House, Evanton.

In the afternoon Her Royal Highness opened the new Leisure Centre for the Highland Regional and Ross and Cromarty District Councils, Ullapool and visited Lochroom House.

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
July 12: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this

Forthcoming marriages

Mr B. Ballard and Miss V.C. Johnston
The engagement is announced between Bruce, son of Mr and Mrs B.S. Ballard, of Abingdon, Oxfordshire, and Vanessa, daughter of the late Mr Gordon Glendall Johnston and Mrs S.J.O. Logan, of Winsor, Gloucestershire.

Mr A.R.M. Brew and Miss K.A.T. McCormack
The engagement is announced between Antony, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Richard Brew, of Coggeshall, Essex, and Katherine, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas McCormack, of Castleknock, Dublin, Eire.

Mr R.M. Hatter and Miss A.H. Lipton
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mrs George Scheder-Bieschin and Mr Maurice Hatter, of Alexandria, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Henry H. Lipton.

Mr F.H. Kirkpatrick and Miss M.J. Fitzwilliam-Lay
The engagement is announced between Francis, son of Mr and Mrs John Kirkpatrick, of Horn Park, Beaconsfield, Dorset, and Miranda, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Fitzwilliam-Lay, of Bloxham, Savernake Forest, Wiltshire.

Mr M.J. Liverman and Miss J.M.J. Dean
The engagement is announced between Michael, youngest son of Mr John Liverman, of Oxen Park, Cumbria, and Mrs Peggy Liverman, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and Judith Mary Joanna, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Dean, of Poole, Dorset.

Lord Fletcher

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of the Right Hon Lord Fletcher, of Islington, will be held at noon, on Thursday, October 18, 1990, in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey. All are welcome to attend.

Dowager Duchess of Abercorn

A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Dowager Duchess of Abercorn will be held in St Columba's Cathedral, London, on Tuesday, July 31, at 3.00 pm.

evening at a Reception at Guildhall given to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

The Lady Elizabeth Basset and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
July 12: The Prince of Wales received Mr Colin Campbell and Mr Peter Carmichael.

His Royal Highness received the Rt Hon Lynda Chalker, MP, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Minister of Overseas Development).

The Princess of Wales attended the International Congress for the Family at the Brighton Centre, King's Road, Brighton, East Sussex.

Subsequently Her Royal Highness visited the Sussex Aids Centre at 3 Cavendish Street, Brighton.

Finally The Princess of Wales opened the new premises of the Brighton Society for the Blind, Clermont Hall, Cumberland Road, Brighton.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for East Sussex (Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson).

Mrs James Lonsdale, Lieutenant-Commander Patrick Johnson, RN and Mr Richard Arbutnot were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
July 12: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this afternoon took the Salute at a performance of the Royal Tournament at Earl's Court.

The Countess Alexander of Tunis was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, President of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, gave a Reception this evening for the Financial Development Board of the Society.

The Hon Mrs Wills was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
July 12: The Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by The Duchess of Gloucester, this evening took the Salute at a performance of the Royal Tournament at Earl's Court, London, SW5.

Mrs Michael Wigley and Major Nicholas Barne were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
July 12: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning visited English Electric Valve Limited, Cropton Street, Chelmsford and this afternoon opened the new Chapter House at Chelmsford Cathedral and later visited the Chelmsford Hospice, Chelmsford, New London Road, Chelmsford.

His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Essex (Admiral Sir Andrew Lewis).

Captain the Hon Christopher Knollys was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, this afternoon presented a President's Medal Award to Mrs Gertrude Hill at the Fund's Head Office, Britten Street, London SW3.

In the afternoon Her Royal Highness opened the new Leisure Centre for the Highland Regional and Ross and Cromarty District Councils, Ullapool and visited Lochroom House.

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

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OBITUARIES

CAPT LAWRENCE ORR

Captain Lawrence "Willy" Orr, leader of the Unionist MPs at Westminster until his retirement in 1974, died in Wiltshire aged 71 on July 11. He was born on September 16, 1918.



RESISTING pressure was one of the many strengths of Captain Lawrence Percy Story Orr, known to all his friends and associates in the House of Commons as "Willy".

He came to the House in the newly created constituency of Down South in 1950 with a majority of more than 16,000.

This was to rise to more than 23,000 by the 1966 election, when he annihilated his Labour opponent by registering three times as many votes.

His majority was safe but Willy Orr had to fight to keep his tiny band of Unionist MPs together, especially during the period when he was leader of the parliamentary party until his retirement in 1974.

He fought his causes with military precision, which bore witness to an earlier career in the Royal Armoured Corps and the Life Guards, and he was a regular speaker in the House on all matters pertaining to Northern Ireland.

As early as 1955 he demanded that the threat of the IRA be taken very seriously and described them as "most determined men".

In 1970 he accused Bernard Devlin of inciting violence and when challenged to withdraw he stuck even more firmly to his words.

He was a member of the Grand Master of the Orange Order for almost a decade, but there was quite a liberal streak. In 1972 he was one of the prime forces behind the lifting of the ban on political marches. He also declared that he was perfectly happy to attend certain Catholic services, such as the funeral of a cherished friend or colleague.

Willy Orr was to a large extent conditioned by his upbringing. He was the son of the Dean of Downmore and he was to the end a fierce defender of the Church of Ireland and its clergy. That championship, as it was of other causes, became characterised by Orr's softly spoken and utterly undemonstrative advocacy. He was physically a small man, but

always dapper with his toothbrush moustache carefully trimmed.

During the early 1970s Orr's personal life went through a difficult period and in 1976 his marriage of more than 35 years standing was dissolved. Earlier he resigned his seat on grounds of ill-health and was succeeded by Enoch Powell, an old friend to whom he gave

total personal support and who provides his own tribute below.

Willy Orr's first venture after leaving the House was not a happy one. With John Gormley MP, who was not only a parliamentary colleague but was one whom they wanted together in the Pye Telecommunications, he formed the Middle Class Association in 1974. It rose like an air balloon in support of the "villified and sneered-at minority" in question. Then it fell like a lead balloon as members began to take exception to the word "Class".

Orr's interest in broadcasting had been clear during his period as an MP, continued and he remained a director of Associated Leisure until 1984.

The Rt Hon J. Enoch Powell writes:

It was to "Willy" Orr that I remember saying on the floor of the House of Commons when the Division bells rang, "Where you vote I will be voting".

The resistance of the tiny Ulster Unionist Party in the 1970 parliament to the disastrous constitutional experiment which the Heath government attempted to impose upon Northern Ireland was led with superb skill, courage and determination by Willy Orr. Had he buckled under the pressures brought to bear by governments at Westminster and Stormont, the cause which Ulster has sustained ever since as part of the United Kingdom would have been fatally damaged.

Succeeding him in representing Down South (later South Down), I was proud to salute, as I do now, the memory of an Ulsterman who served his province and his country well.

ALAIN CHAPEL

Alain Chapel, who ran one of France's most praised restaurants, in the village of Mionnay, near Lyons, died suddenly from a heart attack on July 10 aged 52. He was born on December 30, 1937.

ALTHOUGH perhaps less famous than other French chefs such as Paul Bocuse or Alain Senderens, being by nature less fond of the limelight, Alain Chapel was nevertheless considered to be one of the most outstanding chefs of his generation.

His restaurant held the Michelin Guide top rating of three stars for each of the last 17 years.

Chapel was born in Lyons, where his father worked as a maître d'hôtel but the family soon moved to Mionnay, 12 miles north east of Lyons where father Roger bought an

old bistro called La Mère Chapel. He renamed the restaurant "Chapel", which he soon developed into an eating place of renown, obtaining for it in 1957 its first star in the Michelin Guide.

On failing baccalauréat in 1952, Alain Chapel decided, after encouragement from his father, to train with other chefs, entering a four year apprenticeship with the famous Lyonais, Jean Vignard, before going — like many other illustrious names in French cuisine — to spend a year at the great Fernand Point's restaurant in Vienne, reputed at that time to be one of the very best in Europe.

After completing his military service, Chapel took over the family restaurant in 1967, bringing it its second star in 1969, the year of the death of

his father, before winning in 1973, along with only 16 other French restaurants, the coveted third star. He was still only 35 and at the time was the youngest chef ever to have been awarded Michelin's top culinary accolade. This year's Gault Millau guide, which also gives Chapel its top rating of 19.5 out of 20 (awarded to only 10 other French restaurants), comments in flowery style: "Of the talent of some, you can never be completely sure. Of that of Alain Chapel, you have no more doubt than of the luminous beauty of a Mozart symphony."

Famous for his traditional dishes, such as Poulette de Bresse en vessie aux légumes nouveaux, sauce au foie gras and Cuisse de grenouilles or even simple Gratin de macaroni, as for his more adventurous dishes, such as his Bouillon de champignons, he always eschewed the French culinary fashion for nouvelle cuisine which he described as "a wishy-washy, tedious, unnecessary sophistication."

A shy, reserved man who avoided the kind of media attention given to some of his colleagues, many found him cold, distant, severe and even a little haughty. But his friends attested to another warmer, generous more open side to his nature. He was a great lover of music, often visiting the festivals at Salzburg and Aix-en-Provence; he also loved going for long walks in the countryside of the Ain near his home.

He leaves a wife and two sons.

Marriages

Lord Chetwode and Mrs F. Holt
The marriage took place quietly in London yesterday between Lord Chetwode and Mrs Fiona Holt.

Mr J.R.H. Mandy and Miss F.K.A.G. Neville
The marriage took place on Saturday, in the Church of Saint Mary, Ottery St Mary, between Mr Justin Mandy and Miss Fiona Neville. The service was conducted by the Very Rev Patrick Mitchell, Dean of Windsor, with the Rev Prebendary Peter McGee.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and was attended by Lavinia White, Marina Harmsworth, Joanna McLoughlin, John Mundy, Rupert Harmsworth and Alistair Jenkinson. Mr Howard Jenkinson was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr A. Scott-Green and Miss S.P.L. Challenger
The marriage took place on Friday, July 1990, at Chelsea Town Hall, of Andrew Scott-Green, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Keith Scott-Green, of Portsmouth, Bristol, and Susan Challenger, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Challenger, of Oakwood, Derby. Mr M. Gray was best man.

A reception was held at the Ritz Hotel.

Mr S.A. Slater and Miss K.L.A. Joyce
The marriage took place on Saturday, June 30, 1990, in St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee, of Simon Alexander Slater, eldest son of Mr and Mrs G.A. Slater, of Falmouth, Cornwall, formerly of Essex, to Kathleen Lucy Anne Joyce, only daughter of Mr and Mrs P.J. Joyce, of Dundee. The Very Rev Canon Smyth officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and attended by Miss Shona Allen, Jennifer and Samantha Joyce were the flower girls. Mr Robert Massey was best man.

Following a reception held at the home of the bride, the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Vintners' Company
The following have been installed officers of the Vintners' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr M.J. Langley; Warden, Mr J.S.V. Davy; Renter Warden, Sir David Mitchell, MP; Swan Warden, Mr C. P. Paynter.

University news

Glasgow
The University has appointed Dr David Christopher Bain, professor of public, international and European law from October 1. Dr Burrows is senior lecturer in European law at Glasgow.

Dr Lorraine M. Smith, of Manchester University, to be professor of nursing education, a lectureship in nursing education in the faculty of medicine, from October 1.

Queen's Belfast
To the chair of international finance: Dr Michael John Moore. Professor Moore was latterly senior economist in the research department of the Central Bank of Ireland.

To a chair in accounting: Professor Richard Malcolm Sano Wilson. He was appointed to the Pannell Kerr Forster professorship of the Nottingham Business School.

Director of Physical Education: Dr Colin Borcham.

To a lectureship in classics: Dr Estelle Ann Mary Hain. To a lectureship in history: Dr E. J. H. Hain. To a lectureship in politics: Dr E. J. H. Hain.

The title of professor emeritus has been conferred upon Mr R. J. H. Hain, formerly professor of agricultural and food economics.

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Grants
Biology: Dr J. R. H. Hain, 295,000 from the Natural Environment Research Council, to study the environmental effects of northern winters on the Arctic.

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ARTHUR IVOR STEWART-LIBERTY

Arthur Ivor Stewart-Liberty, MC, who was chairman of Liberty from 1932 until his retirement in 1981, died aged 74 on July 11. He was born on January 11, 1916.



ARTHUR Stewart-Liberty represented the third generation to become chairman of Liberty, the firm started by his great-uncle, Arthur Lazenby Liberty, in 1875 and then known as East India House.

Arthur Stewart-Liberty was educated at Winchester and Christ Church, Oxford, where he read history and forestry, a subject which became his great interest in later life.

He joined the Bucks Yeomanry in 1939 and in 1942 went to India. In the battles around Kohima in 1942, where the Japanese attack was held, he displayed the courage which was also to sustain him after a serious accident in 1964. He was awarded the Military Cross in 1944.

Returning to England after the war, he joined Liberty and, on the death of his father in 1952, he became chairman.

Stewart-Liberty's aims after the war were to make Liberty a leader in its field and to maintain its identity. He succeeded in both. His flair for the business led him to recruit talented new designers who were making their appearance in the 1950s. The modernity and variety of the new Liberty textiles were matched by changes elsewhere in the firm. By the early 1960s the firm felt secure enough to re-issue some of its successful turn-of-the-century textile designs.

The "Lotus" range appeared at a time when the Art Nouveau and its associated styles had come back into fashion and were attracting popular interest. The fabrics were an immediate success.

Liberty's centenary was marked in 1975 by an exhibition mounted by the Victoria and Albert Museum.

For Stewart-Liberty, however, the previous years had been with them the awful burden of life in a wheelchair. Fox-hunting had been his favourite sport, and a fall in 1964 caused paralysis, leaving him with only the use of his arms. This meant the end of many activities he loved: not only hunting, but beagling, tennis, golf and walking in his woods which he knew so well. His courage in overcoming this catastrophe amazed not only his family and friends but the doctors as well. It was partly due to his fine physical condition at the time of his accident that he survived at all.

From 1964 until his retirement as chairman in 1981 Stewart-Liberty travelled widely, despite his wheelchair, and took a close interest in Liberty's overseas enterprises, especially in the USA. After his retirement he concentrated on his estate in Buckinghamshire and developed his farm to a high standard in beef and cereals. However, he remained on the company's board and kept his interest in the firm's development.

He married first, in 1941, Rosalind Fynn — they had two sons and one daughter — and secondly, in 1955, Liz Stuart. They had one daughter. All now survive him.

HUGH HOLKER

Hugh Holker, who was a senior advertising executive in the British newspaper industry and former world president of the International Advertising Association, died aged 70 on July 8. He was born on March 21, 1920.

HUGH Holker was successively advertisement director of two major national newspaper groups, Odhams Press and the Mirror Group. The two jobs covered a total of 17 years. He played a major role in setting up the joint industry committee for national readership surveys and became its first chairman in 1968, a position he continued to hold at the time of his death.

In 1976 he retired from the board of Mirror Group to fulfil his duties on election as world president of the International Advertising Association (IAA). He had served on the council of the Advertising Association and other AA committees since the early 1960s, and was chairman of several industry committees.

On completing a four-year term at the head of the IAA in 1980, Holker was awarded the Advertising Association's Mackintosh Medal. He supervised in 1981 the formation of the Press Research Council, a forum in which newspapers and magazines could resolve questions of readership research.

Holker had started his career in Fleet Street with the old News Chronicle before the second world war. After seeing service in the war in the Far East he returned to take up senior posts in the national industry.

They spent four hours touring the show to see the livestock, judging and parade and sheep shearing.

The Duchess of York presented 100 children with trophies and certificates for their achievements in the Yorkshire Agriculture Society's farm project for schools.

RESULTS
Hicks, Mr & Mrs D. Curtis, Worcester. Mr & Mrs D. Curtis, Worcester. Mr & Mrs D. Curtis, Worcester.

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What's up, down on the farm?

British farmers, back in the news today, have an unenviable public image. Their leader, Sir Simon Gourlay, talked to Brian James

The British public can have all the old-style, free-roaming, mud-wallowing, daisy-and-buttercup-fed food it desires. Even if demand for it should slacken, farmers in increasing numbers will edge away from the industrial practices of the "green factory" they have created.

These were promises gathered slowly, like a hand-picked harvest, from a conversation with Sir Simon Gourlay, the president of the National Farmers' Union, so frequently seen of late giving thin-lipped, ten-second "bits" to television news on the latest revelation about what has been done to what we eat.

Yesterday and today, the questions have concerned the Houston summit's deal on subsidies and the Commons agriculture committee report. Before that, it was the countries of Europe queuing to reject Britain's BSE-tainted beef. All of which comes under the broad sub-heading of our conversation at his farm near Knighton, Powys: what the devil are farmers up to?

Sir Simon was born near a farm which "haunted" during his boyhood. His first agricultural "wage" of 2s 6d was for rolling a field with an antique tractor. With hindsight, had his industry gone far too far down the road of intensive farming? "That is over-dramatic. Farming optimised technology to produce as much food as was necessary. This was a good thing. In the past five years the industry has recognised it can now look more to quality than quantity. People over-emphasise surpluses: we need, we actually badly need, 90 per cent of what we grow."

What though, of the methods? "Some livestock practices have been too much influenced by pursuit of quantity and, yes, at no matter what the cost in terms of animal welfare. That light has been dawning on lots of farmers. Not all, not yet. But those who have not seen this will feel increasing pressure. And so they should."

The issue of high-pressure farming, "people wanting to push animals to the limit", had caused him to walk out of the Royal Agricultural College after one term back in the 1950s. Not that he was against progress. His Hill House farm in 1958 carried 32 cows, 180 sheep and 25 acres of cereal. On two-and-a-half times as much land he now runs 200 cows, 300 sheep and 350 acres of crops.

The young Simon Gourlay had no ambitions in farming politics, until neighbouring farmers told him it was time to do his bit as chairman of the local NFU. County delegate, national committees and the presidency in 1985 were steps recognised by a knighthood in 1989. Few men have had to front an industry so much in bleak public disfavour.

What about those months of the salmonella outbreak, when he seemed alone in declaring that farmers were the victims and not

the cause? "Victim is a strong word, although research later showed about only 5 per cent of incidents could be traced to the farm. The rest began elsewhere in the processing-retail-kitchen chain. It is baloney to say salmonella was due to bad husbandry."

Surely, though, it had a great deal to do with the way that chickens were kept? "Truer to say the way chickens were fed. I care very much about how animals are kept. But I have no hang-up with a properly managed battery farm. Better than an indifferently run so-called free-range farm."

The ideas of green-fringed townies about cruelty, then, being nonsense? "I won't dismiss it as nonsense, because a badly managed battery unit — and I have seen some — is cruel. Very unpleasant. As cruel as a badly run sheep farm, although people will see them roaming in wild state and think, 'How cute, how wonderful'. I can't accept the emotional judgment that intensive farming is of itself cruel."

As for BSE, Sir Simon said that "the vast majority" of farmers bought food for dairy cows in good faith. "Most had no details of what was in those compound feeds. And they certainly did not know — for they would never have tolerated — that some ingredients had not been properly treated. That was the government's fault because they had dropped the standards under which the renderers had to operate."

He would have been horrified to be a bystander on the day the first feed merchant decided to include animal proteins in other animal's meals. "Ten years ago I think I would still have had an instinctive revulsion about giving such a ration to cows. Ethically I would not have had the slightest difficulty with such feedstuff for pigs and poultry, they are omnivores. Nor would I today, not the proscribed offal of course, but the rest, yes."

From BSE to BST, the trials that are being run by the ministry and chemical companies on a 1,000-strong herd of cows to see if injections of added hormones can increase milk yield. Two things jar: one that this milk is sold to the public unlabelled. Two, we already have an excess of dairy products.

"I have no difficulty with this. Farmers already use many ways to increase milk yield. Hormones exist in the animal naturally, so this is merely to increase by synthesising this element. It is not an additive. There is no reason for anyone to begin to believe it could be harmful."

But is it necessary? Why pump any substance into a cow to produce milk we already have in sufficient quantity?

"If a way is found to keep down unit costs, why should the farmer not take advantage. As would a motor manufacturer? So it is about gain? "I really have no hang-up with



A land fit for consumers? Sir Simon Gourlay on his farm: "We actually need 90 per cent of what we grow"

this. To say we must not take from animal more than some inherent genetic capacity... I see no rationale for that. We have not got to the stage where the consumer has said 'look, we don't want this'. The evidence is that very few members of the general public are prepared to pay — or able to pay — the costs of purely natural food."

He continued: "Organic farming (I was interested in that as young man, but found that this was simply another extreme) is limited, about 1 per cent of production. There are various traditional foods creeping in. Supermarkets are using the 'green' thing to promote a softer image. The consumer should be able to make a choice, and then pay accordingly. Farmers should respond to the trend."

"But consumers [have been] very slow to articulate what they actually wanted. So supermarkets took over the making of these decisions. Now five or six supermarkets are able to dictate the specification of what we the suppliers must grow." Farmers, Sir Simon said, will have to listen to demands for naturally-grown food "or not stay in business."

The relationship between farmers and the ministry of agriculture — with the ministry more often seen as the farmers' pet rather than the public's watchdog — is another cause for concern. Were Sir Simon and John Gummer (agriculture minister) always in bed together or did they merely keep finding them-

selves in the same boat? "We often find ourselves in the same boat. The thrust of your question is that one ministry cannot be responsible for both agriculture and food. I see no inherent conflict, and no merit in having a separate minister for food. There are already three departments which have some responsibility. A minister for food may be a sort of watchdog but where would his powers start and stop? We need less departmentalisation."

Sir Simon rejects the simplistic image of the greedy farmer loading a Range Rover with yet another subsidy. He said that in the 1970s, when Britain went into Europe and became beneficiaries of their price support system, grain prices started to dip at a time when British farmers had started to produce much more. "It was all systems go for the next seven years. For 10 years it was too easy for arable farmers to make money. Farming for intervention — yes, growing stuff to be piled up in stores — seeing what they grew simply in terms of 'market opportunity'. So yes, [the farmer] had it too easy. But you can't blame him."

Yet the image persists of torn-out hedgerows, scattered bird life, waters polluted with pesticides and, in pursuit of the rape-seed subsidy, the covering of the land with yellow fields.

"Back in the early 80s farming began to take these accusations seriously, and to do something about it. There has been a survey in one small area, where, out of 129

farms, 125 have in the last ten years started to do something that could be called conservation."

Sir Simon retires from the presidency next February. To what? "Not just this farm. These years in farming politics have changed my outlook. I wouldn't find enough to do staying here full-time. Party politics? Oh no... but I will be looking for a job in a field associated with this life."

What problems will he leave for his successor? "I have had five very tough years. And it will get tougher in the next five. We have to decide how to adapt to bio-genetic engineering of both plants and animals. How we will deal with tighter controls on pesticides and other pollutants. How we will cope with economic pressures such as the fact that 40 per cent of British farm income goes to servicing debt."

Sir Simon walked out to have his picture taken. We passed, but made no mention of a shed, placarded with warning notices about keeping children and pets clear, in which drums of growth-aids, pesticides and herbicides were arrayed by the score. A place to make an easy point. Except that I could not but reflect that it was along the drovers' trail near the foot of this farm that my own great-great grandfather walked 150 years ago. After one bad harvest too many he was leaving for London, leaving for good the land in this valley which his family had worked for 200 years. Would one of those dusts and sprays have been his salvation?

A royal and ancient game

Big business and a new museum are coming to the aid of golf at St Andrews

When Mary Queen of Scots lost her second husband in 1567, a golf widow is not the sort of widow she became. "A few days after the murder of Darnley, remaining at Holyrood House, she went to Seton, openly exercising there all day in the field at the pell mell and the golf, and at night wantonly abusing her body with the Earl of Bothwell." John Knox's bleak-faced Calvinists, who thus indicted her in the Book of Articles, did not have the word "fun" writ large across their brows.

That Scotland should be the home of golf (although the Dutch have been known to make a counter-claim) is a tribute to the resilience of the game, considering all the attempts to suffocate it at birth. Its first recorded mention is in a decree of James II in 1457 ordering that "the fine-ball and the golf be utterly cryed down", as the peasantry preferred such diversions to the archery practice with which they were supposed to occupy their free time.

But by 1504 the game had won royal approval, with James IV losing a round to the Earl of Bothwell, not to mention a 42 shilling bet. Sheer coincidence, no

doubt, that nine years later he led the presumably under-arched Scots army to overwhelming defeat at Flodden.

Such kernels of ancient history, well presented and with plenty of buttons to push, are to be gleaned from the new British Golf Museum, just opened beside the game's holiest shrine, the Royal and Ancient clubhouse at St Andrews. The story of the most maddening way ever invented of spoiling a four-mile walk is entertainingly told, from displays of how the early balls were stuffed with enough feathers to fill a top hat, to Sandy Lyle's lucky sweater which won him the 1985 Open, the ball which won him the US Masters, Lee Trevino's sand wedge and Henry Cotton's knighthood insignia.

There is, too, a large display of bizarre, eccentric and now thoroughly illegal clubs. And there is the Walker Cup, a gigantic, hernia-inducing urn. "Ah wouldst thou want the win that," observed a local visitor, gazing at the thing in disbelief as I passed. "Ma sideboard's no big enough."

The Ryder Cup displayed alongside is by contrast an elegant, golden object which would slip easily into the side pocket of a golf bag.

Peter Lewis, the museum's designer and curator, has made much use of audio-visuals, which at a touch of the

screen will produce short slide shows of ten great golfers, or ten great games. Other screens offer a golf quiz to test whether you have been paying attention to the displays.

The museum is based on the R&A's own historic collection, together with items drawn from elsewhere, and is long overdue as the principal exhibit of its kind in the country. Golf widows who find it all a bit intense may, however, avail themselves of St Andrews' other new attraction.

Alongside the 17th fairway of the notorious Road Hole on the father and mother of all links there used to stand one of the world's ugliest hotels. Built in the 1960s on the site of the defunct railway station, the Old Course Hotel was regularly likened, with its cubist concrete shape and jutting balconies, to an open chest of drawers. World-class golfers stayed there with reluctance, because there was nowhere else. They wished they were at Turnberry, or Gleneagles, or Muirfield, all of which have hotels of international standard on the doorstep.

When I visited the other day, a lone stonemason was lovingly building a sandstone rubble wall at the entrance gate, the last stage of a £15 million refurbishment, which has cloaked the exterior in a rather more sympathetic facade, and upgraded the interior.

The new owners are a consortium of Japanese (who else?), Rockefeller and Oppenheimer family trusts, and the R&A itself. Michael Bonalack, once a distinguished name on the amateur circuit and now the R&A secretary, says the ruling body of the game has "moved" into commerce in the hope of attracting the British Open to St Andrews more often: the premier event in the British calendar is there this year for the first time since 1984, and Mr Bonalack believes that without a hotel of international standard in the town, St Andrews could be threatened as a future Open venue.

The Old Course Hotel has four resident golf stewards on hand to arrange a game, although this does not guarantee guests a chance to play on the hallowed links. The course accommodates 43,000 rounds of golf every year, is owned by the local district council for the primary benefit of the townspeople, and is probably the only golf course in the world controlled by an Act of Parliament.

ALAN HAMILTON

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WEEKEND LIVING



The castle of real adventure

What made Angus Grossart, a successful banker, spend his weekends for 12 years away from his beloved golf and his Edinburgh townhouse? A vision of the past, and a future way of living

Plus ...

The forecasters say that London's importance is declining, and people are moving beyond the south-east for happiness and prosperity. Who are they, and where are they going?

Every new face deserves a few lines.



For over two hundred years, The Times Births column has constituted the best introduction to the world. You'd be surprised at the number of famous people from all walks of life who've made their first appearance there. And for a small extra charge, you'll receive a gold-edged certificate stating that your child's birth was announced in the newspaper of record.

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WHEN THE TIME COMES THE TIMES

Victims who unite in a tragic cause

News of a disabled baby suing the government puts the focus on a growing support group for victims of listeria. Heather Kirby reports

When it was announced this week that a baby disabled by listeria was suing the government for £1 million, it was another 28 victims could be added to a list of families who belong to a listeria support group.

This group was formed as a result of the publicity given to the food poisoning scare in 1988, when three people, one father and two mothers, who had each suffered the death of a baby or given birth to a severely ill child, joined forces to provide information and offer support to anyone who wanted it. So far one third of their enquiries have come from doctors and environmental health officers.

Mark Horvath is one of the group's founders. When his wife gave birth to their second daughter, Hannah, six years ago, the 10lb 4oz baby died two days later. "At the time we were not thinking about food because we ate what we thought was a healthy diet, which I suppose included pâté and cheese," says Mr Horvath, who farms 500 acres of meadowland at Worthing, Sussex. "The medical profession thought my wife probably was infected with listeria by the animals on our farm, so we had the sheep, pigs and even our cat and dog blood tested, but there was nothing there, so we were left in a vacuum." They have since had two other healthy children, Hugo, four, and Milo, two.

Mr Horvath has requested information on listeria from the Food and Drug Administration in the US and research scientists on both sides of the Atlantic. He has lobbied the Department of Health, food manufacturers, doctors and environmental health officers. He estimates his phone bill as about £3,000 a year, whereas it used to be a few hundred pounds a quarter.

"We now have a victim case register of 75 names," he says. "We only list those who have been officially diagnosed, whose cause of death is given as listeria, although I also keep a record of everyone who contacts us. We don't charge, we pay for everything out of our own pockets, but we do ask for a contribution towards the paper and envelopes, stamps and telephone calls."

The other founder members of the group are Amanda Jupp, a former court clerk of Faringdon, Oxfordshire, whose son Matthew was born with

hydrocephalus, a brain disorder, and Joan Ashburn, a teacher, of Stapleton, Bristol. In September 1986, when she was seven months pregnant, Mrs Ashburn's baby daughter Thea was born but lived for only 25 minutes. They divide the work three ways, Mr Horvath doing the administration, Mrs Jupp answering most of the letters and Mrs Ashburn providing much of the emotional support by telephone. After a year of intensive activity they would like to hand over to new volunteers, possibly setting up regional self-help centres.

Mrs Ashburn now has a two-year-old son, Ewan. During the summer of her first pregnancy she spent two weeks in France, "when I ate lots of cheese and wine and even brought boxes of brie home with me," she says. "No one could tell me why my baby died, people said I had been overworking, but I always thought it was something I ate and I felt incredibly guilty."

"When we set out we wanted to contact people to collect information, because it was not a notifiable disease. We asked everyone we contacted to fill out a form, but now so many more people are involved we probably don't need to do that any more; but what we can still do is share our feelings."

Mr Horvath is about to produce the group's first newsletter because "we have been overwhelmed with enquiries". He has already written a layman's guide on A4 paper stapled together, with the group's pink warning poster as a cover. "This lists all the ways and whereof avoiding listeriosis, how the bug gets to babies and what happens, what foods to avoid, how to cook them, briefly all you need to know," he says. "We have also produced a 25-page guide which includes pages of statistics, and is more for professionals, although anyone who asks for it can have it."

He says that only people whose babies were born between the World Health Organisation's warning in March 1988 and the government's subsequent warning in February 1989 are in a position to sue, and that the Listeria Support Group is not involved in legal proceedings, but it swaps information with Bill and Vivien Devereux, who are suing the government on behalf of their son.

● Listeria Support Group, 2 Wessex Close, Faringdon, Oxon SM7 7YY (0272 653826)



Helping others: Joan Ashburn, who lost her first child, and son Ewan

THE OFFICIAL LINE ON THE RISKS

The big misconception about listeriosis is that it is widely regarded as being almost exclusively a food-borne illness in pregnancy (our science correspondent, Thomson Prentice, writes).

The evidence of a direct link between food infected with listeria and stillbirths and miscarriages remains inconclusive, but health experts have preferred to err on the side of caution.

According to Sir Donald Acheson, the government's chief medical officer, the risk of such a tragedy due to listeria from any source is one in every 7,000 conceptions. However, that does not mean that infected food is responsible. The bacteria are found everywhere in the environment, in soil, water and vegetation, and are carried without symptoms by about 5 per cent of the population.

A detailed investigation into listeriosis in 22 pregnant women, 19 of whom lost their babies, failed to show a link between the disease and any kind of food. The study, into every case of listeria infection recorded in Scotland in 1988, was carried out by obstetricians, gynaecologists, doctors and health officials.

Dr Kenneth Calman, Scotland's chief medical officer, said: "The investigation could not demonstrate an association between the consumption of any kind of food and the occurrence of listeriosis. It can be contracted in many ways, and contaminated food is likely to be the cause in only a minority of cases."

In February last year the government advised pregnant women to avoid eating soft cheeses and to take other precautions with food. Research showed the presence of high levels of the bacteria in samples of the foods.

Art for art's sake, not money, for God's sake

THE possibility exists that Tim Jeffries' interest in photography pre-dates his brief marriage to the photographer Koo Stark, but, for whatever reason, Hamiltons Galleries, in which he is a partner, is one of the best-known homes of photographic work in Europe. I missed the exhibition of the late Norman Parkinson's oeuvre, shown at the gallery last December. I thought missing it was a shame, since I had long admired Mr Parkinson's ability to talk to young women and hardened *Vogue* fashion editors into risking life and hand-rolled silk hems all in order to balance on a log in the Amazon River—or some such place—in order to create one of Mr Parkinson's frissons of the glossy magazines. Still, I did manage to catch Karl Lagerfeld's recent exhibition of photographs at the Jeffries Gallery.

"Are you selling many?" I asked Mr Jeffries, who was looking very happy at the opening night party. "Dozens," he replied. Mr Lagerfeld is the extremely talented fashion designer of Chanel as well as the creator of his own line of Karl Lagerfeld clothing. In my view, his exhibition at the Jeffries revealed Mr Lagerfeld to be an untalented photographer who has an interest in shoes, ankles and feet which I do not share. The photographs, explained Mr Jeffries, cost £1,000 each and only three prints would be made: one on sale, one for Mr Lagerfeld's private collection and one to go on permanent exhibition.

I suppose £1,000 does not buy much to hang on walls these days, but, all the same, I found the price high for a bit of processed film and a frame. "It's obscene," said one viewer at the gallery. "But then all art is obscenely priced." Then followed one of those predictable conversations about the current prices being paid at Sotheby's and Christie's.

I always find it slightly ludicrous when people evince outrage at every jag that raises the price of a piece of art. What, after all, is outrageous about paying \$82 million, as opposed to, say, \$5 million, for Van Gogh's portrait of Dr Gachet, for what is a piece of canvas and frame, the intrinsic element of which—if one disregards the intangible element—cannot be worth much more than \$50. Clearly, what one is really paying for is aesthetic pleasure, which is a totally individual matter and depends on the perception of



BARBARA AMIEL

the individual buyer as well as investment value. Investment value depends on the market, is totally arbitrary and has to do with the willingness of a small market of wealthy individuals and art museums to gamble enormous amounts of money. The purchase of art seems to me an expression of those mysterious forces that make human beings human beings. How can one be outraged by this?

There are those who are "outraged" when people abroad buy or collect what are viewed as national art treasures. This seems to me too silly for words. In so much as the Elgin Marbles or the

Contemporary artists are likely to be more interested in themselves than their subject

Badminton Cabinet or the Three Graces belong to anyone but the creator and private owner, they clearly belong to all humanity. One can only be happy, on the whole, when private collectors rescue abandoned or expensive works of art. Most often, they find their way into perfectly splendid exhibitions and I am eternally grateful to Mr and Mrs Frick, whoever they may have been, whose gallery in New York city has provided me with many pleasant moments.

Curiously, my own particular funny bone is not jiggled primarily through art, but rather through literature and music. All the same, once in a while I see a painting which short-cuts the nervous system and goes straight to the medulla oblongata. Still, it is more likely to be an old master than an impressionist or modern painting. With some exceptions, this indif-

ference to the art of my contemporaries puzzles me. Although the apprentices to the old masters may have had to sketch a finger a thousand times before their teachers would let them try a hand, modern art can be just as skilful. In the past 200 years mechanical skills in mixing colours or achieving perspectives have, if anything, improved.

Perhaps it is that contemporary artists are more likely to be interested in themselves rather than the subject of their work. I remember chatting to a Swiss Hungarian gallery owner named Gabor Kekko who was exhibiting work by Van Dyck and Rubens's pupil Jacob Jordaens. Mr Kekko was indifferent to any painting later than the 18th century. "Because," he told me, "it is not art. After the 18th century artists lost their seriousness and became selfish."

Is this true? From the Renaissance to the end of the 18th century it was not only the old masters themselves, not only Raphael, Tintoretto, Rembrandt or Da Vinci, but the pupils of their pupils, the very epigones, who put the objects of their study on canvas with an unparalleled flair, imagination and artistry. In a minor master one could see a humility lacking in contemporary art: a concern for the subject, a distancing from the narcissism of the artist. This is art in which the artist's self-expression and self-discovery emerge only incidentally.

To some extent all this may be a matter of taste and temperament. But this separate-but-equal status of taste cannot be extended indefinitely. Abstract expressionism or the minimalists cannot compare with Hieronymus Bosch. Of course our art collectors have not helped contemporary artists. Trying more to understand their own small souls than to expand them, they have leaned with increasing fervour towards art that mirrors the "anxieties" of contemporary life: a search to see themselves in the frame.

All of this is of no material concern to me, since I could not afford to buy a bad second rank old master, let alone a Tintoretto. But I see that there is currently an exhibition of great fakes at the British Museum, and that might be a solution. Whether a painting is an original or a forgery will matter little to me so long as I like it. But a good forgery, like a good lithograph or first-rate photograph, can hang with pleasure on my wall.



Go ahead pigeon, make my day: champion Denise Eyre

Shooting star

An English woman is defending her world clay pigeon shooting title

THIS weekend Denise Eyre is attempting to become the world women's clay pigeon shooting champion for the fourth time in five years.

Mrs Eyre, the current holder of the title, will be shooting it out in France with about 30 of the world's top women shots at Le Rabot, near Orleans, in a three-day event which climaxes on Sunday. If she retains the world title, it will be another major achievement for the 30-year-old from Mossley, Greater Manchester, who in ten years of shooting has also won the English, British and European titles, and collected more than 200 trophies.

With her husband, Tony, Mrs Eyre runs the Charlesworth Shooting School on the Derbyshire moors, a few miles from Glossop. Mr Eyre is himself a crack shot who was rated in the world's top 20 until he abandoned competitive shooting to support his wife's career.

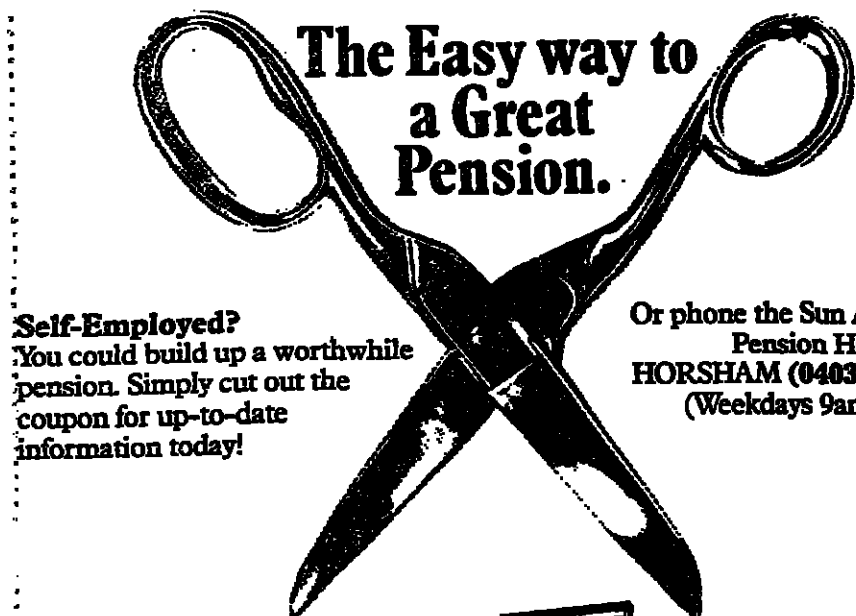
About 70 people from all walks of life—office staff, doctors, shop workers, company directors—use the school regularly. After a pep talk about the sport—including safety aspects—beginners are given a shotgun and take their first tentative potshots. The targets are usually hollow discs made from pitch-based material, measuring anything between two and five inches in diameter. The discs are hurled 200ft in the air by a spring-loaded catapult, travelling at various angles and at speeds between 60mph and 150mph. Variable winds can make a big difference to results.

As a hobby the sport is not expensive—a basic shotgun might cost a few hundred pounds, cartridges are about 10p each, and club membership perhaps £20 a year. But at top competition level it can cost many thousands, so Mrs Eyre has four sponsors.

Companies can take clients to the school for a day of corporate hospitality with a difference. After a morning spent practising, and lunch, there is a competition with a trophy at stake.

Will she be disappointed if she does not win this weekend? "Now and again I've lost an important event and I used to get upset about it. Now I just don't bother me too much. I just think 'Oh well, I'll come back and win it next time'."

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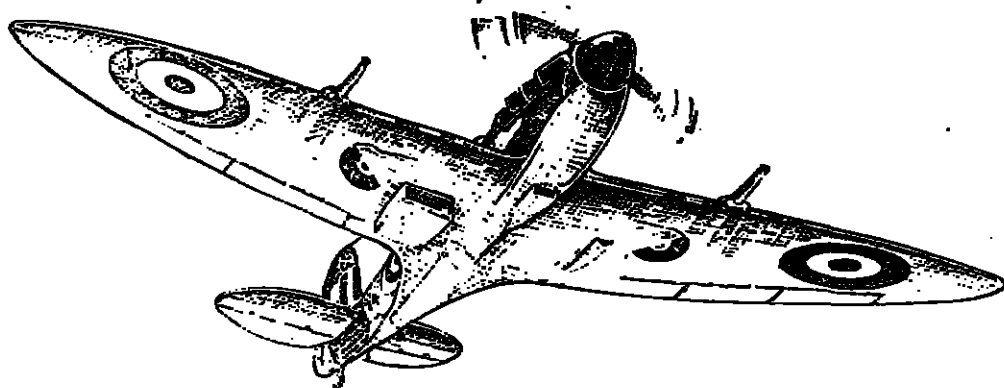
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ARTS

FESTIVAL: SPOLETO, ITALY

Lapped up by the liberati

Allen Ginsberg and Philip Glass's new opera has made a triumphant European debut. William Ward reports

When Philip Glass and Allen Ginsberg get together, the result has to be worthy of attention. So perhaps it was inevitable that the unlikely American duo of a minimalist composer and a beat poet would turn out to be the hit of the Spoleto Festival. Although something of an Odd Couple in artistic terms, New York's two most famous Jewish Buddhists were greeted with predictable enthusiasm for the European premiere of their opera, *The Hydrogen Jukebox*, at the Teatro Nuovo.

Their credentials are indeed impeccable as far as the Spoleto faithful are concerned. Glass's work, especially with Robert Wilson, is well-known here, while at his first Spoleto appearance in 1967, Ginsberg was arrested for obscenity. His public reading of "Who to be kind to", with its explicit references to sexual organs, was judged unsuitable by the Spoleto police chief. The subsequent appeals on the American's behalf by Italy's leading artists, led by Giuseppe Ungaretti and the composer Giancarlo Menotti, did as much for Ginsberg's career as Vatican protests did for Fellini's. Ten years ago, Ginsberg was invited back by Menotti for a reparatory banquet (he had, after all, been clapped into handcuffs) and given the keys of the city.

The Hydrogen Jukebox (Ginsberg-watchers may recognise the title as a quote from the 1957 "Howl") comprises 21 songs covering his work from 1955 onwards, presented in two 50-minute sections. On stage, there were six vocalists (a worker, a priest, a policeman, a housewife, a pin-up, a black housemaid) engaged in a kind of theatrical group therapy session, clucking and pushing each other away, and jumping in and out of overalls, on and off chairs, while a small orchestra (three keyboards, two percussionists, two wind instruments) conducted by Martin Goldrey, gave vent to Glass's newfound enthusiasm for melody, Brazilian rhythms, free jazz and blues.

Although the two Communist

dailies, *Il Manifesto* and *L'Unità*, were predictably breathless, the influential *La Repubblica* expressed serious reservations about a minimalist composer trying to get tuncful. The *La Repubblica* critic described Glass's attempts as "pointless" and the results "utterly boring", claiming the modish monotonies of *Einstein on the Beach*, *Satyagraha* and *Akhmatov* at least made more stylistic sense. Ann Carlson's direction and Jerome Sirtin's dry-ice smoke effects and apocalyptic slide backdrops were roundly condemned as dilettantish.

"Dilettantismo" was also the verdict of the critic of the conservative *Il Tempo*, who unashamedly admitted falling asleep for most of the show. Although Ginsberg's appearance is misleading—at 64, short-haired in shirt and tie, he could be mistaken for a businessman—the old "Feds under the Bed" message is still there. *The Hydrogen Jukebox*, which was going to be called *The Fall of America* until commercial interests put paid to the idea, is a rousing condemnation of an American police state; its themes a shopping list of familiar Sixties issues. It is against the Vietnam War, the CIA and capitalism (the American flag is burned as part of the proceedings), and for marijuana, oriental philosophy and free sex. As a sop to the Nineties, ecology and Aids are thrown in for good measure.

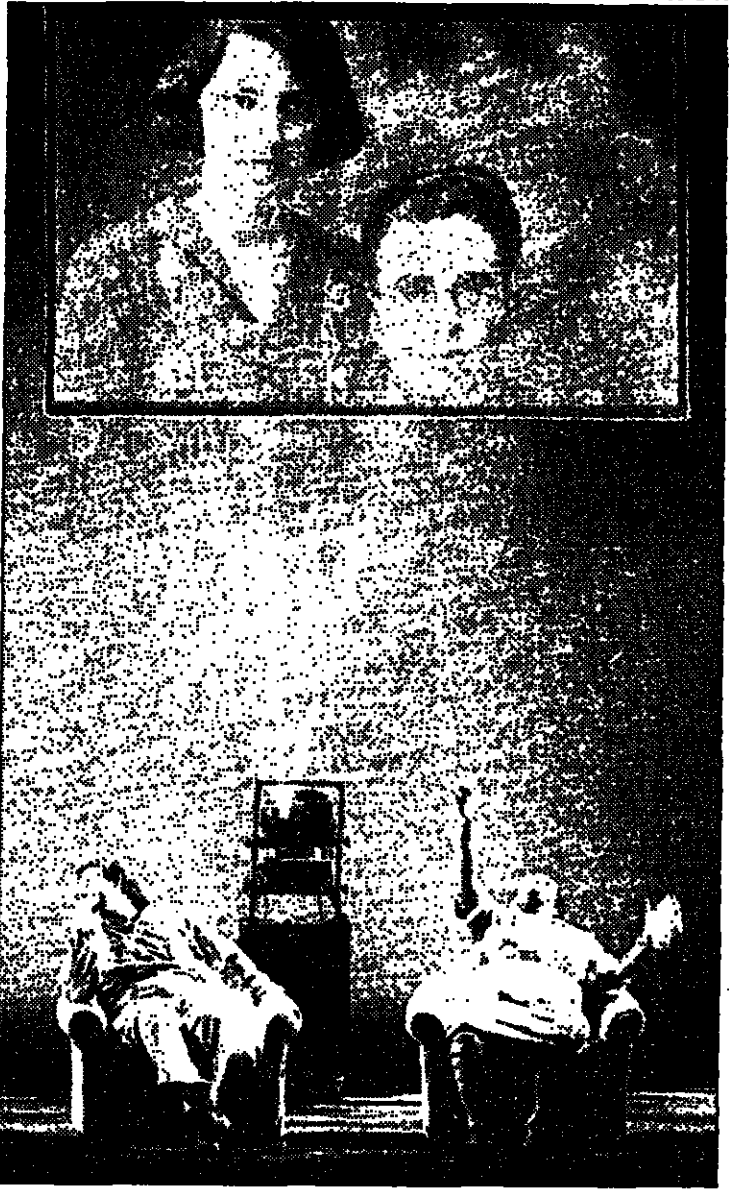
Last week Ginsberg warmed up the evening's opera performances by giving joss-stick scented lunchtime poetry readings, accompanying himself on the accordion. Ever the professional martyr to his cause, Ginsberg delighted his audience by the news that thanks to the Jesse Helms-inspired new obscenity laws, *The Hydrogen Jukebox* can never be transmitted on radio or television in the United States.

Spoleto's other highlight was Menotti's production of Mozart, only the third time the Salzburg composer has been performed at the festival. Although criticised by some for playing (literally) to the gallery, Menotti's noisily audience-participatory production of

Le nozze di Figaro was enthusiastically received. The *bomboniere* proportions of the Teatro Caio Melisso obliged youthful conductor Oliver Gilmore to use a chamber-sized orchestra. His efforts were particularly well received, only slightly less so the almost entirely non-Italian cast.

Although to many observers it appears to have become a sustained parody of itself, Spoleto remains very much the *doyen* of Italian summer arts festivals. Its recipe for success—a traditional setting (medieval hill-town) as a plate upon which to serve radical chic cultural offerings—has not

TOMMASO LEPERA

Theatrical group therapy: A scene from Glass and Ginsberg's *Hydrogen Jukebox* as it was staged at the Spoleto Festival

only survived the test of time (this is the 33rd annual edition), but served as template for most of its Italian rivals. Its secret ingredient remains its charismatic head chef, the 80-year-old Menotti, whose benign dictatorship not only gives it a certain artistic coherence but, more importantly, has saved it from the party political meddling which blights most other festivals.

Furthermore, Menotti's continuous presence ensures a unique element of ritual. The festival always begins and ends with an important concert, with the latter live on RAI, Italian television, from the piazza in front of Spoleto Cathedral. This year's inaugural concert at the Teatro Nuovo featured a business-like rendition of Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique* by the Orchestra of the Paris Opera conducted by Korean Myung Whun Chung, still basking in the warmth of his success at the Bastille.

Mindful of the wider television audience it will reach, Sunday's farewell concert is Verdi's *Requiem*, performed by RAI's Turin Symphony Orchestra. In last week's concert to celebrate the completed restoration of Filippo Lippi's frescoes inside Spoleto Cathedral, an enormous veil covering the *affreschi* fell away to the trills of the Westminster Choir, directed by Joseph Flummerfeldt. Although hitherto noted almost exclusively for *musica profana*, Menotti had composed for the occasion an eight-minute *a cappella* setting of the *Regina Coeli*.

However, these are perhaps the only concessions to bourgeois taste at Spoleto. This Italian answer to Edinburgh otherwise remains a determined enclave for arts enthusiasts of a kinder, simpler age when "radical" and "experimental" were supreme accolades, and for whom Ken Russell and Lindsay Kemp remain the monarchs of the British performing arts. To judge by the box-office takings and the tumultuous applause that attends almost every show, Spoleto continues to be a success.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Any requests?

A READER raps my knuckles for mentioning in a record review only the CD version of a new release, and not that it can also be had on LP and cassette. No wonder the LP is dying, he went on, if it is already being treated by reviewers as dead and buried. Well, maybe, though I doubt that the CD revolution has really been given its impetus by the power of the press. More important than this complaint, though, was the lament towards which it was leading, the lament that music has now become "a rich man's plaything".

It is a good ringing phrase, though it perhaps conceals a number of arguable assumptions. For instance, when a decent sound-reproduction system can be had for the cost of a few cigarettes a day, and when even CDs compare favourably in price with concert or theatre (let alone opera) tickets, this is not a medium restricted to the rich. But of course the important point is made by the word "plaything". There is no doubt that the dissemination of music is now much more subject to the control of the individual listener than ever was the case.

The CD has increased that control by making it much easier to select and programme extracts. A sequence of music lasting hours can be set up in advance, piped to all rooms in the house, and used as background music for every mundane chore. But the more significant extension of listener control in the last decade has been the vast increase in the recorded repertoire, a development which was already well in train before CDs: the watershed has to be situated, rather, in the 1960s. That was the decade of the first complete *Ring* on disc, of Indian, Indonesian and Japanese music becoming widely available on record, and of Deutsche Grammophon's Archiv and Avant-Garde series pushing at opposite ends of musical history.

By now the choice is almost endless. What is playing as I write this is a record of plainsongs from 18th-century choirbooks preserved at Auxerre Cathedral (Harmonia Mundi HMC 901319), music which had probably been undisturbed by singers' eyes for a quarter of a millennium.

It could be that my correspondent meant this by "play-

thing", that one can now eat breakfast to the *St Matthew Passion*, or drive up the M40 to the "Ride of the Valkyries". But there is another, less pejorative kind of responsibility in the phenomenon of listener control. In the 19th century the musical free market was moderated by a conviction that the performing repertoire had to be centred in the great classics. Now, though, there is no such agreement, and the classics themselves have become multifarious: a Clara Haskil collector and an early-piano enthusiast are hardly talking about the same thing.

That musical repertoire is no longer a given absolute; each listener creates a repertoire for himself or herself, each listener even creates a personal history of music, a personal constellation of great performances. Buying alone, listening alone, we are no longer contributing members of a musical culture: the modern musical market needs no agreement on priorities, because its clientele is worldwide and there will always be enough takers to warrant a recording even of the most esoteric music.

In that respect we are all inevitably irresponsible, owing no allegiance to a musical community or to a canon of masterpieces. But in this responsibility there is a challenge. Being uncircumscribed by general taste, the available musical repertoire provides enormous areas for discovery.

Of course, the process has barely begun. There may come a stage when every scrap of notation ever written has been recorded; and when every fault-trail has its furthest-singing traditions documented on disc, but still, one may hope, there will be new music being written, and certainly there will be new performances. Can one imagine the record shops of 50 years hence, when not only Gligli and Bruno Walter jostle in the "historical" category but Domingo and early Bartók, when there may be 20 different recordings of the *major* works of Boulez and Stockhausen, and a thousand of the Beethoven symphonies? Music, so they say, provides an avenue of escape from the self. We may indeed lose ourselves in these galaxies of musical choice.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

FINE ART

Scots unfurl their colours in the south

John Russell Taylor on work by Scottish artists on show in London

Five years ago, everywhere I went in Scotland for several months had the same show, *Colour, Rhythm and Dance*. Not that I minded, for it was a constant pleasure to view. It made me think, first, of the extraordinary, international quality of its central figure, J.D. Fergusson, and second, how strange it was that while the show visited every big venue in Scotland and even crossed the Channel, it could not find a venue in England.

Scots would say it is always the same story: Scottish art is separate from English art, and is often disregarded in England. Fergusson, and others, are too important to be disregarded, although the English are slowly mending their ways, and there are now several galleries in London devoted to Scottish art. J.D. Fergusson is featured in two

one-man shows, at the Fine Art Society, 148 New Bond Street, W1 (071-629 5116) until August 3, and at Duncan R. Miller, 17 Flask Walk, Hampstead (071-435 5462) until July 22.

Fergusson (1874-1961) is generally shoved unceremoniously into the hold-all category of "Scottish Colourists". Certainly one is struck immediately with the brilliant range of colour in his work, but that is not all there is to him. He was a more international figure than most of his contemporaries, having spent much time in France, and his relative neglect in recent years is the more surprising when one considers his close connections with Matisse and the Fauves.

Mention of Matisse points to an anomaly in his reputation. He

was, along with Matisse, one of the 20th century's great, unashamed sensualists. If we think it is good that Matisse lived out on canvas the full life of the senses, and do not worry about whether he evaded the role of the artist as thinker, why should we object to the same characteristic in Fergusson? In the context of Scottish art, it does not remove Fergusson so far from the approach of such painters as Cadell and Peplow, except that they tend to be more ecstatic about fruit and flowers than about large, luscious amounts of female flesh.

The Fine Art Society show gives a key to his manners and methods. It is a selection from the holdings of the Fergusson Art Foundation, set up after his death by his wife, Margaret Morris. Had it been in France he would, undoubtedly, have had a museum of his own by now but, as it is, the papers and sketchbooks are deposited in Glasgow University library and the print room at Kelvingrove, while the paintings are scattered on loan to various Scottish galleries. Reassembled for the moment, the works tell their own story.

One of the good things about Fergusson is that he is subtly unconcerned with the niceties of taste. So many painters are strangled by the old school tie and never seem able to let themselves go, that it is heartwarming to observe Fergusson in full flight. He really loves women: ardore is littered with stories about what is contained in the flaring pink box in many of his still-lives, and it is encouraging to know that, although he was liable to leap upon his models, he was, at least, careful about the consequences.

The earlier works are perhaps easier for people with delicate digestions: the scenes of fashionable women promenading in parks or on beaches have a delicacy and

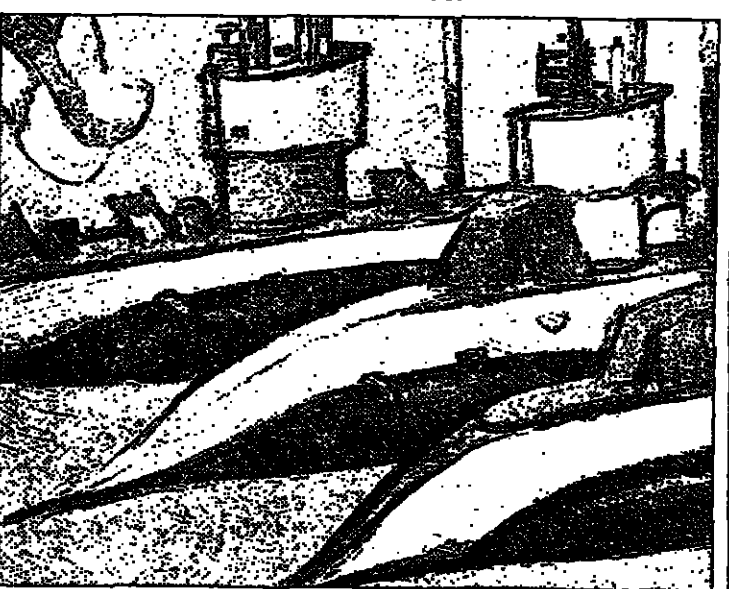
sparkle in which Whistler might have recognised his paternity. The sportive revellers of *Les Eux* are brought together into a finely rhythmic frieze which could in other hands have led on straight to abstraction. But Fergusson loved the physical world too much to adventure far from it. And yet, some of his grandly simple, intensely evocative paintings of ships and submarines in the first world war clearly indicate that he was intensely interested in the fundamental shape of things. He was always aware of the skeleton beneath the most toothsome flesh, and this gives substance to everything he painted.

Do some of the latest works go too far? *Blonde with Checked Sundress* (1959), for instance, is so shamelessly in "Moon over Miami" colours, so flattened and coarsened in its execution, that the first impulse might be rejection. Yet the arbitrary distribution of patches of colour over the surface

of the sundress is an extraordinary *trouville*. Whether it was already in the design of the garment, or whether contrived by Fergusson as a way of rendering the checker-board of reflected colours, the artist's eye is still open, questing.

The taste-barrier is the most difficult one for a British artist to surmount. Perhaps that is why Fergusson still does not have his due share of serious regard. But it would be hard to find a more sheerly pleasurable experience in London at the moment than these two shows.

If you want further evidence of Fergusson's power to transcend his artistic environment, you need go no further than Ewan Mundy's London gallery at 29 New Bond Street, W1 (071-499 2516), where until July 25 there is *The Modern Tradition in Scottish Painting 1890-1930*. It includes first-rate examples of such other Colourists as Cadell, Peplow and Hunter, and very fine they are. But it is possible to doubt that Fergusson was something bigger and better than all the rest?



Intensely evocative: "Submarines" by J.D. Fergusson

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MORLEY IN CINEMA PAUL
WILLIAMS' "THE FORTY-SEVEN
THOUSAND" (R) 1997
3.30 & 10.10 S.A. "Do me
D.Mall. Winner of Oscar
best foreign film..."
CURZON PIMLICO Phoenix
Cinema Curzon Pimlico Rd 071
9641 PHILIPPS
CINEMA PARADISE (PG) In
1.00 (not Sun) 1.00
B.W.C. (winner OSCAR)
best foreign film...
CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury
Avenue W1 071 439 4806
Julia Garfield in "FOUR
OF US" (15) PG
1.45 (not Sun)

7-11-1962

BBC 1

- 6.00 CeeFax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Laurie Mayer and Fiona Foster 6.55 Regional news and weather
9.00 News and weather followed by The Perils of Penelope Pitstop (r) 9.25 Hartbeat. Arts and crafts for children presented by Tony Hart and Margot Wilson (r). (CeeFax)
10.00 News and weather followed by Double Dare. Slapstick game show (r) 10.30 Playday. Brian Blessed reading poetry and prose in a Yorkshire abbey
11.00 News and weather followed by Hudson and Halls. The camp cooks are joined by comedienne Eve Fennell 11.30 Boswell's Wildlife Safari to Thailand. The quarter of a million swallows that inhabit downtown Bangkok (r)
12.00 News and weather followed by Dallas (r). (CeeFax) 12.50 Rewinding Antiques. How to look after diamonds and to clean rings. (CeeFax) 12.55 Regional news and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather 1.30 Neighbours. (CeeFax)
1.50 Film: *Enter Gantry* (1980). Much talent went into this adaptation of Sinclair Lewis's expose of revivalist religion and when the Oscar ceremony came round, it was suitably rewarded. But Lancaster took the best actor prize for his expansive portrayal of the travelling salesman who becomes a hell-fire preacher in the American midwest in the 1920s. The writer, Richard Brooks,



Burt Lancaster's hell-fire preacher (1.50pm)

gained his Oscar for a script which may have softened Lewis's satire but still has an astute flavour. Brooks the director went unwarded, indeed was not even nominated, and the other statuette went to Shirley Jones, playing against her wholesome musical comedy type as the girlfriend who turns prostitute. There are strong performances, too, from Jean Simmons, as an eviling temptress, and Anne Stanger as the saintly mother. Kennedy, during shooting Simmons fell in love with her director and they were married in the same year
4.10 Paw Paws. Cartoon adventures of a group of young bears (r) 4.35 Gentle Ben. Outdoor tales of a ranger's son and his unlikely pet, a bear called Ben (r). (CeeFax)
5.00 Newsround 5.05 White Peak Farm. Episode one of a three-part drama set on a Northumbrian sheep farm (r). (CeeFax)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (CeeFax). Northern Ireland: *Spinalonga* 5.40 Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Moira Stuart and Peter Sissons. Weather
6.30 Regional News Magazines. Northern Ireland: Neighbours

- 7.00 Wogan with Sir Richard Hildesley and actress Christopher Lloyd and Mary Steenburgen. Plus music from Rosie Ana
7.30 Film: *Time Walkers* (1986) starring William Devane and Lauren Hutton. An impressive made-for-television adventure about a 20th century professor, in a 19th century setting, who helps her search for her father's wicked associate who has escaped to the 18th century. Directed by Michael Schultz. (CeeFax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martin Lewis. Regional news and weather
9.30 Paradise Club: Sudden Death Tango. A police plan to foil a gun heist goes tragically wrong, and Danny tells a prospective armed robber to keep himself out of trouble (r). (CeeFax). Wales: Royal Welsh Polo Classic 10.10 Paradise Club
10.20 Film: *Attack Force Z* (1980). Mel Gibson does the all-action macho stuff as a crack commando unit to rescue a defuncting Japanese diplomat whose plane has crashed behind Japanese lines during the second world war. A small order to those such as Mel, especially when given a hand by Sam Neil and John Phillip Law. Directed by Tim Burstall. Northern Ireland: Ulster Orchestra in Concert 11.10 Film: *Attack Force Z*. Wales: 11.00 Film: *Attack Force Z*. (CeeFax)
11.50 Film: *The Hearse* (1980). Spooky chiller starring Trish Van Devere and Joseph Cotton. When a woman moves into her new New England home, things start to go bump in the night in a frightening way. Directed by George Bower
12.55am News. Wales 12.30am News and weather. Northern Ireland: 12.40am Close

ITV LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am
9.25 He-Man and the Masters of the Universe (r) 9.55 Thames News and weather
10.00 Out of This World. American comedy series about Evie, a schoolgirl who travels to other planets in a magical power, at least let us hope not. With this weekend seeing the first big mass exodus of British holidaymakers for package tours in the sun, the television cameras will be at Gatwick Airport for four hours of live reports spread over today, tomorrow and Sunday. If all they have to show us is a repeat of last summer's delays, then this might turn out to be less than riveting real-time viewing. But the choice of the all-purpose Nick Owen and Fern Britton as presenters and a promised item on Gatwick's worst-disaster passengers, suggests that however tense things get in the departure lounge there will be more entertaining diversions for the viewer at home. Sunday's first programme looks like providing the most challenging fare, questioning whether Gatwick and Heathrow airports will be able to cope with the expected increase in air travel
1.00 News at One with John Suchet. Weather
1.20 Coming of Age. American comedy about a retired pilot and his family 1.50 A Country Practice. Drama set in and around the health centre in the rural Australian town of Warrilla Valley
2.20 Anything Goes. Paul Barnes and Anthea Turner present the programme that looks at leisure time and the best ways of using it. Paul takes a break in Dundee while Anthea presents Cadbury World, the ultimate in chocolate experiences, which opens next month in Bourneville
2.50 What's My Line? Angela Ripston hosts the resurrected quiz. Regulars Judy Cooper and Roy Hudd are today joined by Simon Williams and Judith Chalmers 2.15 News headlines 3.25 The Young Doctors 3.55 Art Attack. Art made accessible and practicable for children 4.15 Garfield and Friends 4.45 I Can Do That. The memory of the world's best chance to fulfil their dreams as stewards on a flight to Canada
5.10 Home and Away (r)
5.40 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather
5.55 The London Programme Preview
6.00 Six O'Clock Live presented by Michael Aspel

- 7.00 The \$64,000 Question. Bob Monkhouse hosts this new high-tech way of watching other people win money. (Oracle)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle)
8.00 Airport '90.
Despite expectations which may be aroused by the title this is not another disaster movie, or at least let us hope not. With this weekend seeing the first big mass exodus of British holidaymakers for package tours in the sun, the television cameras will be at Gatwick Airport for four hours of live reports spread over today, tomorrow and Sunday. If all they have to show us is a repeat of last summer's delays,



Nick Owen and Fern Britton report (8.00pm)

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- 9.00 Island Son: Everyday People. Glossy but predictable drama with Richard Chamberlain as the doctor who has recently returned to his parents on the island of Hawaii. A local radio host, facing death, helps a group of homeless and destitute people. (Oracle)
10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Sandy Gall. Weather 10.30 LWT News and weather
10.35 The London Programme. Trevor Philips investigates the Police Complaints Authority
11.05 Airport '90. The evening's second live report from Gatwick Airport
11.35 Jake and the Fatman: The Man I Love. The unlikely team of suave investigator and rumpus A.A. takes on another case. When a recently-married woman is the victim of attempted murder, McCabe asks Jake to find out more about her unfaithful husband
12.00 We Got It Made. American comedy series starring Teri Copley and Tom Vetter
12.30am William Tell. Drama series about the Swiss hero and his fight against the tyranny of Austrian rule
1.00 Wrestling. Coverage of the NWA Pro International. Followed by News headlines
2.00 Cinema Attractions. Steve March presents a round-up of the latest hits, flops and gossip from the film world of Hollywood
2.30 Golf. Action from the Anheuser-Busch Classic
3.30 Ice Hockey. Tonight's game-features Boston v Edmonton
4.30 Crusade in Europe: Victory's Aftermath (b/w). The documentary series about the second world war, based on the memoirs of General Eisenhower focuses on the military, diplomatic and psychological lessons of the conflict
5.00 ITN Morning News with Christabel King. Ends at 6.00

BBC 2

- 6.45 Open University: Science - Rats and Super Rats. Ends at 7.10
8.00 News 8.15 Westminster
9.00 Mastermind 1989. Today's specialist subjects are Samuel Pepys, Hilarie Belloc, British history 1815-1914, and the geography of Wales (r)
9.30 Film: *None But the Lonely Heart* (1944, b/w) starring Cary Grant and, in an Oscar-winning role, Ethel Barrymore. Moody drama about a lowlife Cockney who finds a new meaning to his life when he joins a gang of thieves to provide for his sick mother in 1930s London. Written and directed by Clifford Odets
11.20 Look, Stranger. A tour of the Great Working Steam Engines rally at Stourpaine Bushes, Blandford Dorset 11.40 Chronicle: Ommi Seti and Her Egypt. A profile of Dorothy Eady who recovered from a near-fatal fall as a child convinced she was the reincarnation of an ancient Egyptian priestess (r). Northern Ireland: The Twelfth 12. The London Valley
12.30 Worldwide: Treasures Island - Have Map, Will Travel. A modern-day treasure-hunt for a solid gold Madonna stolen 200 years ago and supposedly located during the 1950s on a Pacific island (r)
1.20 Green Glazes (r). A Better Than New. Tradition upholstery (r)
2.00 News and weather followed by Weekend Outlook (r)
2.05 Golf. Dougie Donnelly introduces coverage of the third round of the Bell's Scottish Open from Glenageary. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50 Northern Ireland: Golf from Down Royal and golf from Glenageary

- 6.00 Film: *We're No Angels* (1955). Despite the all-star cast of Humphrey Bogart, Aldo Ray and Peter Ustinov, only a mildly entertaining tale of three escaped prisoners from Devil's Island who come to the aid of the French family with whom they take shelter. It is still streets ahead of the earlier remake with Robert De Niro and Sean Penn which opened recently in London. Directed by Michael Curtiz. (CeeFax). Wales: The Bard of Southwark 6.30 Candle on the Hill 7.00 Wales in Westminster
7.45 What the Papers Say with freelance journalist Michael Leapman
8.00 The Roux Brothers. Albert and Michel reveal their mastery of soups and stocks (r)
8.30 Gardeners' World. Japanese-style gardens and plants for the bathroom are among tonight's items. (CeeFax)
9.00 Naked Video. Scottish comedy which relies mainly on characterisations to produce the laughs rather than any radical new approach. Helen Lederer and Gregor Fisher lead the team which retains a nice balance between the two. (CeeFax)
9.30 HomeLand: Nigeria - China Achebe. The Nigerian writer China Achebe is probably best known here for his novel *Anchovy of the Savannah* which was nominated for the 1987 Booker Prize. But like the other portraits in this series, Alex Marzano's film is less concerned with Achebe's literary achievement as to set him in the context of his country's recent social and political tensions. His first novel, *Things Fall Apart* was published in 1958 and is a seminal work in the story of modern Africa. Importance here is to remind us that



China Achebe: a critical stance (9.30pm)

Achebe's creative impulses were forged in the colonial period. Much of his writing has explored the conflict between the advanced morality of the tribal culture and the religious economic, material and religious faith of the colonialists. But in treating the post-independence era he has been forced to adopt the same critical stance, often through thinly-veiled allegory, in relation to the indigenous Nigerian leadership. (CeeFax)
10.20 Uncertainties: How do I Communicate? Bob Peck looks at ways of interpreting the world, through everything from hairstyles to the written word (r)
10.30 Newsnight including Miriam O'Callaghan reporting on the controversy over installing water meters
11.15 Weather
11.20 Film: *Collette* (1985). The second part of a superficial dramatisation made for French television. Macha Meril plays the prolific writer and lover, here starting a new career in the theatre. In French with English subtitles. Directed by Gerard Philou-Weber. Ends at 12.55am

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Noah's Ark. The second programme about the threatened Holm Oak (r)
6.20 Business Daily
6.30 The Channel 4 Daily
9.25 The Art of Landscape. Scenes of natural beauty set to serene music on the streets of London
12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Sue Cameron
12.30 Business Daily. Financial and business news service
1.00 Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series
2.00 The Manager. The second in the series of five Open College programmes on modern management. (Oracle)
2.30 Channel 4 Racing from York. Derek Thompson introduces live coverage of the 2.35, 3.10, 3.40 and 4.10 races
4.30 Countdown. Richard Whitley with another round of the word and numbers game, assisted by Giles Brandreth
5.00 I Love Lucy (b/w). Classic comedy series from the early 1950s about a band leader and his hyper active wife. Starring Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz
5.30 Mother and Son. Australian comedy series about an elderly widow and her sons (r)
6.00 World DJ Mixing Championships. The climax of the championships from the Albert Hall, featuring the British entries of Cutmaster Swift, the current world champion, and DJ Reckless of Croydon

- 6.30 Tour de France 1990. As the riders enjoy a rest day, a chance to review progress over the first 12 stages
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Anne Perkins. Weather
7.50 Book Choice. The Rev Dr William Oddie reviews Richard Muller's biography of Anthony Trollope. (Oracle)
8.00 Brookside. (Oracle)
8.30 The Enchanted Sea: Earth, Fire and Water.
After an enervating start last week, the series on the Mediterranean is in enervating mood as it looks at how the region is being disturbed by geology. Discussion of volcanoes testing us naturally to Sisy, which has three of the liveliest. Just to remind us that there is nothing new under the sun the film jumps back to AD 79 and the smothering of Pompeii by Vesuvius. Another excursion into history recalls how the city of Corinth was destroyed. Least dramatic, but prospect equally destructive, is the threat to the Nile delta and the marshy Camargue of southern France by a rise in the sea level. The series still has the whiff of the travelogue about it and has so far failed to establish any common bond between the eight programmes to go and still much to cover. (Oracle)
9.00 Liffin' the Blues. A documentary celebration of competitive gliding, which is perhaps the quietest sport in the world. After four or five hours in the air in complete solitude and silence, the winning margin may be as little as one-

- tenth of a second. The film covers the British Standard Class National Championships, reckoned to be the breeding ground for future world champions
10.00 Cheers. Popular comedy set in a Boston bar. (Oracle)
10.30 Roseanne. Wisecracking American comedy series set around a family of blue collar workers
11.00 Film: *Godzilla vs. Megalon* (1973) starring Katsushiko Sasaki and Hiroyuki Kawanishi. Continuing Channel 4's *Creature Features* season is this tale of revenge by the SeaTopsians, who are not too pleased with the damage caused by underground nuclear testing. Their revenge takes the shape of Megalon, a huge cockroach-like creature which fires a beam from its head, and Sordoran, a giant black caterpillar. However, the humans are not swayed and have the power of Godzilla to rely on. As usual, this film has a poignant message about nuclear weapons and remains laughably enjoyable. Directed by Jun Fukuda
12.30am The Twilight Zone: Paraphrase to Dream (b/w). Rod Serling introduces another tale of the strange and macabre. A psychiatrist receives a strange case in the shape of Edward Hall, who believes that the carnival dancer in his dreams will kill him if he ever falls asleep again and thus has not slept for four days. Starring Richard Conte
1.00 Tour de France 1990. See 6.30
1.30 World DJ Mixing Championships. See 6.00. Ends at 2.00

RADIO 1

- FM Stereo and MW
9.00am Gary King 9.30am Simon Mayo
9.50am Simon Mayo 11.00 The Radio 1 Roadshow 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 David Jensen 1.00pm Simon Mayo 1.30pm The Aftershow 5.30 News 5.50pm The Radio 1 Show 7.30pm The Big Beat 10.00 The Friday Rock Show 12.00am The Radio 1's Big 100

RADIO 2

- FM Stereo and MW
4.00am Steve Madden 5.30 Chris Stuart 7.30am Simon Mayo 9.30am Judith Chalmers 11.00am Simon Mayo 1.00pm David Jensen 1.30pm Simon Mayo 1.50pm The Aftershow 5.30 News 5.50pm The Radio 2 Show 7.30pm The Big Beat 10.00 The Friday Rock Show 12.00am The Radio 2's Big 100
MW as above except: 6.45-7.00pm Sport and Casualty Results 8.45-10.00am The Radio 2's Big 100
International from Edinburgh

WORLD SERVICE

- All times in BST.
6.00am World News 6.09 24 Hours 6.30am World News 6.39 24 Hours 6.50am World News 6.59 24 Hours 7.00am World News 7.09 24 Hours 7.30am World News 7.39 24 Hours 7.50am World News 7.59 24 Hours 8.00am World News 8.09 24 Hours 8.30am World News 8.39 24 Hours 8.50am World News 8.59 24 Hours 9.00am World News 9.09 24 Hours 9.30am World News 9.39 24 Hours 9.50am World News 9.59 24 Hours 10.00am World News 10.09 24 Hours 10.30am World News 10.39 24 Hours 10.50am World News 10.59 24 Hours 11.00am World News 11.09 24 Hours 11.30am World News 11.39 24 Hours 11.50am World News 11.59 24 Hours 12.00am World News 12.09 24 Hours 12.30am World News 12.39 24 Hours 12.50am World News 12.59 24 Hours 1.00am World News 1.09 24 Hours 1.30am World News 1.39 24 Hours 1.50am World News 1.59 24 Hours 2.00am World News 2.09 24 Hours 2.30am World News 2.39 24 Hours 2.50am World News 2.59 24 Hours 3.00am World News 3.09 24 Hours 3.30am World News 3.39 24 Hours 3.50am World News 3.59 24 Hours 4.00am World News 4.09 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Soviet troops carrying batons and riot shields stand guard over shoes left behind when prisoners, who had been wearing them, were clubbed and dragged back to their cells

£1.8m jewellery stolen from royal gift shop

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

ASPREY'S, the Bond Street jewellers renowned as the gift shop of the royal family and the rich, has been robbed of jewellery worth an estimated £1.8 million by thieves who unlocked a display case with their own key.

The theft occurred last month but the company requested no publicity and Scotland Yard regulations oblige police to respect those wishes. Detectives have had to circulate descriptions of the missing jewellery among police and the jewellery trade without revealing the victim.

In recent years there have been other cases in which victims, often wealthy, have requested no publicity. Last year cash and jewellery worth £4 million was taken from the London home of a relative of the Sultan of Brunei.

The theft at Asprey, founded in 1781, occurred on June 22 when four men and a woman entered the shop posing as potential customers. The well-dressed group arrived separately, passing the scrutiny of a commissionaire and staff near the door without raising suspicion.

The first four of the gang reached the jewellery department on the shop's mezzanine floor and drew sales assistants into conversation as they showed interest in making purchases. The fifth member entered a lobby opening on to the department, slipped a key into a display cabinet and removed three or four pieces of jewellery, including a necklace.

Normally staff would have been patrolling the area. They were drawn into serving the "customers" who were unconcerned by internal security cameras which swept the department regularly. Their mission completed in less than 10 minutes, the five thieves made their excuses and left the shop as casually as they had arrived. Staff discovered the theft between 10 and 15 minutes later.

Yesterday Tim Cooper, the managing director, said the company did not comment on security. Asked if it was right not to publicise a crime so that criminals could be caught, Mr Cooper said: "If there is anything between ourselves and the police it is between ourselves and the police."

In 1985 an Australian thief stole from the shop, which is said to have supplied a £30,000 engagement ring for the young bride of a Rolling Stone, was given the wedding list for the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of York and sells Christmas crackers at £500 a box. The Australian was jailed for seven years after stealing a £7,000 silver elephant from Asprey whose commissionaire wished him a nice day. The thief told police later: "I said I already had and thanked him."

Soviet wrath at jail riot

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

DRAMATIC pictures passed to *The Times* show Soviet troops armed with guns, batons and shields violently suppressing a mass prison riot in the Urals last month in which one detainee died and many others were injured.

Interior ministry forces sent into the penal colony at Chelyabinsk were said to have opened fire "indiscriminately". Prisoners were beaten as they lay on the ground. Some were so badly attacked that they were unable to walk.

According to a source at Fotoreklamtsentr, the Soviet agency which made the pictures available, the photographer was a former police investigator turned journalist who was allowed into Chelyabinsk to report the riot. His story appeared in a local newspaper, but he did not offer his photographs because he did not believe that they would be published.

His film shows troops aiming guns through the bars of cells at prisoners, below, and rows of inmates herded against walls with hands behind their heads. The only human note is a picture of a crying woman worker being gently escorted from the scene.

The source said that the trouble at Chelyabinsk, an institution for hardcore criminals, was provoked by complaints of inhumane treatment and poor conditions. Another Soviet report said that 1,000 prisoners had tried to break out through the main gate by ramming it with machinery.

Soviet television had showed armed police on the prison rooftops and interior ministry troops as they waited for the order to go into action. Chelyabinsk was the second serious Soviet prison riot within days. *Izvestia*, the Soviet daily, reported that five inmates at Dnepropetrovsk in the Ukraine died during protests there.

NUM hunt for missing £1m could entangle Scargill

By TIM JONES
EMPLOYMENT
CORRESPONDENT

ARTHUR Scargill could become embroiled in legal action instigated by his own union which is determined to discover if it can recover up to £1 million of Russian money gathering interest in a trust fund in Dublin. A four-man team from the National Union of Mineworkers' national executive committee will learn next week from Mr Gavin Lightman, QC, whether it can sue the secretive International Miners' Organisation for the money which Soviet miners say was intended to relieve hardship during the strike. Mr Scargill is president of the IMO.

The team will also hear whether Mr Lightman intends to publish further evidence. Since he concluded his damning account of Mr Scargill's stewardship of the NUM farther evidence has come to light.

Yesterday Mr Scargill continued to deny that the NUM had received any money from Russia or that he knew the source of the money in the Dublin account. His claim that no money had come from Russia was backed by Vladimir Lunyov, president of the Russian Miners' Union. However another Russian union leader has insisted that

Political sketch

Withdrawing a sentiment?

"DON'T mention the war!" was Basil Fawcett's advice. At Ridley Towers, too, they should take it.

"Is there anything he could say that actually would get him the sack?" Labour's Dawn Primarolo hit the target.

"What, indeed? Well, he could say that Neil Kinnock was a man of wisdom; that Washington, not Bonn, was the threat; that Alan Walters was a pest; that Mrs Thatcher was only human... Yes, there's plenty he could say."

But his remarks about Germans had been unreservedly withdrawn, said the PM. She repeated it, again and again. Of the two questions she must have feared most (neither of which Mr Kinnock asked), Ms Primarolo's was one. To Mrs Thatcher's relief, nobody asked the other: how do you "withdraw" a sentiment?

About two-thirds of the Labour party, of course, and about half of the Tories, agree with Mr Ridley. The atmosphere in the chamber was better likened to the shocked inanity which greets someone who has inadvertently broken wind, than to real upset. We all do it - but it isn't done. Ridley joins the gallery of intonant intellectuals who have demonstrated that in British political life, to express a point of view which would raise a cheer in nearly every bar, taxi or bus-queue in the land, is almost invariably fatal. A glance at ourselves in the looking glass is usually worth a few points off sterling.

And the problems the industry secretary has caused the PM, add further evidence to a long-running paradox in Mrs Thatcher's career: this empress is better served by her enemies than her friends. The empress's palace is guarded by three types of minister: henchmen, courtiers, and eunuchs. The henchmen are her real ideological soulmates. The courtiers are the professional soldiers - those whose vocation is to act upon their mistress's convictions rather than entertain convictions of their own. The eunuchs did have convictions, but they have been chopped off, set aside, sacrificed for the joys of palace service.

All her best ministers have been eunuchs. Who gave her

the "right to buy", slew *Scargill's Maximus*, then pacified the Celts? Peter Walker. Who tamed the trade union barbarians? Jim Prior. Who served her with such style abroad, then fell on his sword to save her face with Argentina? Lord Carrington. Who stalked the palace corridors for a decade, foiling plots and sorting out the servants? Willie Whitelaw.

Who commanded her police force and now smoothes her relations with foreign powers? Douglas Hurd. Who carried her curriculum to the far provinces and now orchestrates for her the cheers of the mob? Kenneth Baker. Who kept discipline among her troops and now shovels up the droppings of her nuclear horses? John Wakeham. Who faced down her truculent physicians and stretcher-bearers? Kenneth Clarke. Who distributes alms, bread and circuses to the rebellious poor? Tony Newton. Who tends her green estates? Chris Patten.

Hunt, Chalker, Mellor, Bottomley, Garel-Jones, Waldegrave... These are some of the famous eunuchs. Beneath them scurry dozens of minor castrati: Cope, Scotts, Langs, Lloyds... Boy, does she need them!

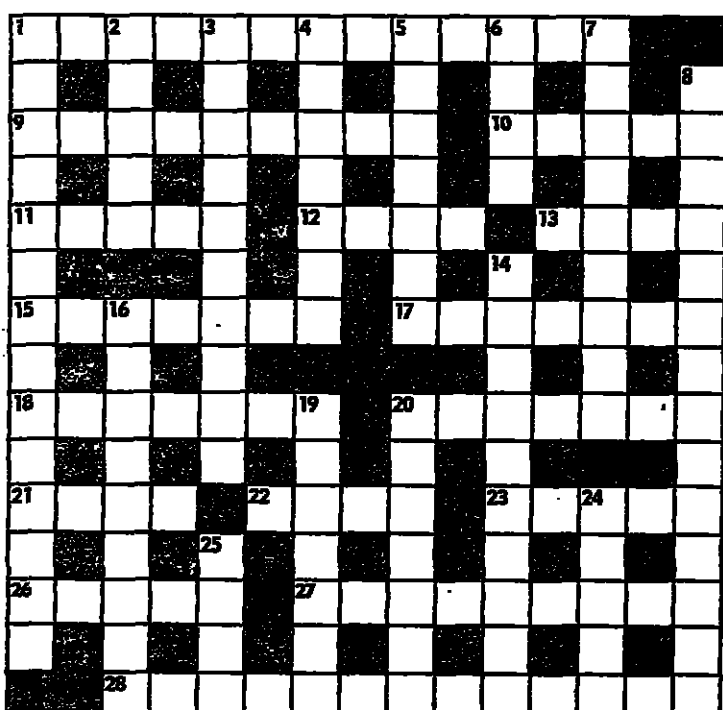
As to the courtiers - theirs not to question why - let us not name them. We know who they are. We salute them.

And pass on. For it is the henchmen - or *servants* - who, by their mixed record, intrigue us. John Redwood, perhaps, springs to mind as loyal, balanced and utterly convinced. But remember all the right-wingers who were going to sort out Education? Rhodes Boyson, Bob Dunn, Angela Rumbold? Names like Gerard Vaughan, John Butcher, John Stanley, Peggy Fenner... all have bowed at her throne, yet failed to please her as ministers. To the Tophits, Josephs and Moores there has been a brilliant but erratic quality. Forsyth is formidable, but trouble; Alan Clark has a maverick genius. Then there's Mr Ridley...

I may be wrong, but looking down yesterday as MPs yelled "where is he?" at Mrs Thatcher, I thought I saw a eunuch wink.

MATTHEW PARRIS

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,345



- ACROSS**
- 1 It heralds delivery - of a kiss? (8,5).
 - 2 Island worth £1.057 (3,6).
 - 3 Information about style (5).
 - 4 Bird runs off to grieve (5).
 - 5 Verse about a ruler (4).
 - 6 100 square metres, about 100 square yards (4).
 - 7 Raced round naval vessel, one from overseas (7).
 - 8 Henry I had an objection to fish (7).
 - 9 The range of underwear worn by fathers (7).
 - 10 Make about a thousand burn (7).
 - 11 Neat town, by the sound of it (4).
 - 12 Just water (4).
- DOWN**
- 1 Sweetest distributed in packet to France (10,4).
 - 2 Channel showing "Sister Susie", perhaps (5).
 - 3 I'm not in USA, strangely, I'm in Egypt (5,5).
 - 4 The stuff to make girl enthusiastic (7).
 - 5 Unprincipled, like Jack (7).
 - 6 Seconds out of Rugby reveals (4).
 - 7 Creature giving man firm support (4,5).
 - 8 Soldiers advanced, without head displaying implacability (14).
 - 9 Club in Peel wound up by censor (4-6).
 - 10 Several lived outside the hospital, in an unspecified place (9).
 - 11 Second auditor employed in the wool business (7).
 - 12 Sharp, some say, and swift creature (7).
 - 13 Heaven used to contain a goddess (5).
 - 14 Map - one mislaid by guide (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,344

BLANCHE PARADOX
OCEANIC BILBOARD
CAPSULE GOLF
KANSAS ISOTHERM
STYNA A A C
HAIKU DEPOSITION
LAVENDER AAGGO
STYNA A A C
EPIGRAM BLANK
PACIFIC OCEAN
LISA A A A A A
ABSENCE GUARDON

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard
SCOTS MOTS

- PEE THE BED**
- a. A children's game
 - An edible weed
 - A satirical poem
- FLOOK**
- A spot
 - A ploughshare
 - A heavy raindrop
- LUMBER**
- A wooden expression
 - A chimney head
 - A pickup
- HOATCHIN**
- Breeding
 - Malignant
 - Infested

Answers on page 18

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.) 731
M-ways/roads M4-M1 732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T. 733
M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M23 734
M-ways/roads M23-M4 735
M25 London Orbital only 736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways 737
West Country 738
Wales 739
Midlands 740
East Anglia 741
North-west England 742
North-east England 743
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745
AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 5 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

Stop look and listen... Before you choose Health Insurance ask your broker about Company Supercover. Make sure with WPA Health Insurance

70 Redcliffe Street, Bristol BS1 6LS.
Tel 0272 225771. Fax 0272 225677.

WEATHER

Much of England and Wales will be hot and sunny, although sea breezes will keep many coastal districts cooler. Northern Ireland, southern Scotland and the far north of England may well have a cloudy start, but it will become sunnier and warmer later. Central and northern Scotland will be cloudy for much of the day and there may be a few showers. Outlook: sunny and hot everywhere, but turning thundery later.

ABROAD

MIDDAY	t=thunder; d=dry; f=fog; s=sun; c=cloud; i=ice; n=snow; l=fair; c=cloud; r=rain	C	F
Algeria	27 81	Algeria	27 81
Amman	27 81	Amman	27 81
Antwerp	27 81	Antwerp	27 81
Athens	27 81	Athens	27 81
Bahia	27 81	Bahia	27 81
Barcelona	27 81	Barcelona	27 81
Bombay	27 81	Bombay	27 81
Buenos Aires	27 81	Buenos Aires	27 81
Calcutta	27 81	Calcutta	27 81
Cairo	27 81	Cairo	27 81
Cardiff	27 81	Cardiff	27 81
Chennai	27 81	Chennai	27 81
Cologne	27 81	Cologne	27 81
Dublin	27 81	Dublin	27 81
Edinburgh	27 81	Edinburgh	27 81
Faro	27 81	Faro	27 81
Florence	27 81	Florence	27 81
Frankfurt	27 81	Frankfurt	27 81
Hong Kong	27 81	Hong Kong	27 81
Isle of Man	27 81	Isle of Man	27 81
Jersey	27 81	Jersey	27 81
London	27 81	London	27 81
Luxembourg	27 81	Luxembourg	27 81
Madrid	27 81	Madrid	27 81

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 22C (71F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Wind: 24 hr to 6 pm, 12.5 hr. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1024.1 mbars, falling.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 22C (71F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 11C (52F). Wind: 24 hr to 6 pm, 12.5 hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 15C (59F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Wind: 24 hr to 6 pm, 12.5 hr.

POLLEN COUNT

The pollen count for London and the South-east issued by the National Asthma Campaign at 10 am yesterday was 166, very high. Forecast for today, high. For the next 24 hours call National Pollen and Hay Fever Bureau: 0800 600439 (operated at midday).

WEATHER

Much of England and Wales will be hot and sunny, although sea breezes will keep many coastal districts cooler. Northern Ireland, southern Scotland and the far north of England may well have a cloudy start, but it will become sunnier and warmer later. Central and northern Scotland will be cloudy for much of the day and there may be a few showers. Outlook: sunny and hot everywhere, but turning thundery later.

AROUND BRITAIN

Sun	Rain	Max	Min
Scarborough	11.6	21	70
London	11.6	21	70
Cardiff	11.6	21	70
Belfast	11.6	21	70
Edinburgh	11.6	21	70
Glasgow	11.6	21	70
Manchester	11.6	21	70
Newcastle	11.6	21	70
Nottingham	11.6	21	70
Sheffield	11.6	21	70
Sunderland	11.6	21	70
Swansea	11.6	21	70
Torquay	11.6	21	70
Weymouth	11.6	21	70
Wolverhampton	11.6	21	70
Wrexham	11.6	21	70
York	11.6	21	70

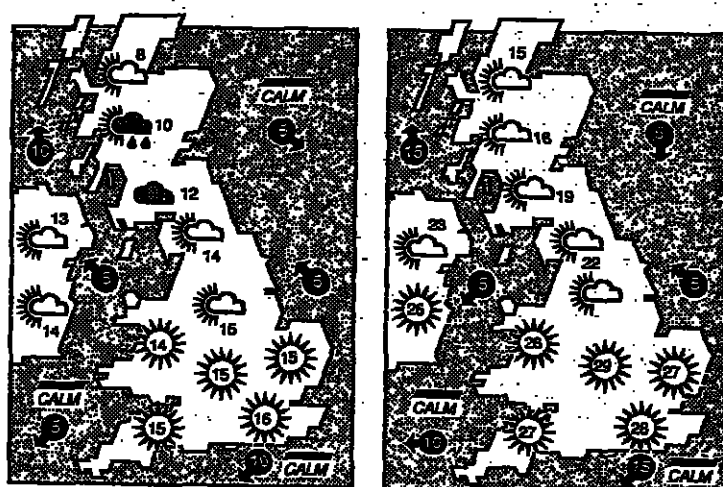
TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701*
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702*
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703*
Devon & Cornwall	704*
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset	705*
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706*
Bedfordshire & Essex	707*
Northamptonshire	708*
West Midlands & Shropshire	709*
Shropshire, Hereford & Worcester	710*
Central Midlands	711*
East Midlands	712*
Lincolnshire & Humberside	713*
Dyfed & Pembrokeshire	714*
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715*
N W England	716*
N W Yorks & Dales	717*
N E England	718*
Cumbria & Lancashire	719*
S W Scotland	720*
W Central Scotland	721*
Edin S Fife, Lothian & Borders	722*
East of Scotland	723*
Grampian & E Highlands	724*
N W Scotland	725*
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726*
N Ireland	727*

Weathercall is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak). *includes pollen count.

AM PM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 9.14 pm to 4.59 am
Bristol 9.23 pm to 5.09 am
Edinburgh 9.52 pm to 4.46 am
Manchester 9.53 pm to 4.57 am
Penzance 9.29 pm to 5.29 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

HIGH TIDES

Today: London Bridge 6.04 AM, 6.06 PM; Lowestoft 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Cardiff 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Dover 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Portsmouth 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Southampton 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Swansea 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Wexford 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM.

TODAY

London Bridge 6.04 AM, 6.06 PM; Lowestoft 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Cardiff 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Dover 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Portsmouth 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Southampton 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Swansea 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Wexford 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM.

WIND

London Bridge 6.04 AM, 6.06 PM; Lowestoft 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Cardiff 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Dover 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Portsmouth 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Southampton 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Swansea 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Wexford 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM.

WAVE

London Bridge 6.04 AM, 6.06 PM; Lowestoft 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Cardiff 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Dover 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Portsmouth 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Southampton 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Swansea 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Wexford 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM.

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London Bridge 6.04 AM, 6.06 PM; Lowestoft 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Cardiff 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Dover 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Portsmouth 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Southampton 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Swansea 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM; Wexford 6.01 AM, 6.03 PM.

Globe fields to £1.1bn Coal bid

Life issue price 60-5m

Good sale near

Rebills 45m

Bar for Canary

REPOUND

STOCK MARKET

INTEREST RATES

CURRENCIES

GOLD

NORTH SEA OIL

INTEREST RATES

مكازم النجف

Globe yields to £1.1bn Coal bid

GLOBE has yielded to the Coal Board Pension Funds' £1.1 billion bid. David Hardy, the investment trust's chairman, said Globe believed most shareholders should accept "while still considering the offer price is too low".

The Coal funds, which control more than 70 per cent of Globe shares, responded by extending their cash settlement offer through BZW for another week. The offer, whereby shareholders can sell to BZW for 205p cash a share, closes on July 23. Globe's directors said they would accept the offer for their own shares, except for Godfrey Chandler, a non-executive, who holds 157,000.

Sun Life issue to raise £67.5m

Sun Life, the life assurance company, is holding a one for seven rights issue to raise £67.5 million to boost shareholders' funds. The issue, at 800p a share, is being largely underwritten by Transatlantic Holdings and UAP, the two main shareholders.

The company announced a dividend of 14p a share for the half-year to end-June, up from 13.84p. In the half year, Sun had premium income of £493 million, up 10 per cent. *Tempos, page 23*

Burton sale near

Burton, the retail group, is expected to announce the sale of its financial services division. The group is predicted to receive about £170 million. The sale of the division, expected to make operating profits of £25 million this year, down from £34.8 million last year, will help reduce Burton's gearing.

Peel falls 45%

Pre-tax profits at Peel Holdings, the property group, fell 45 per cent to £1.1 million in the year to March, as interest and other charges rose to £55 million. Both final and total dividends are unchanged at 7p and 10p respectively. *Tempos, page 23*

Bear for Canary

Bear Stearns, the American investment bank, is moving to Canary Wharf in London's Docklands.

THE POUND

US dollar 1.7915 (-0.0090)
W German mark 2.9731 (+0.0041)
Exchange index 93.3 (-0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1870.1 (-7.6)
FT-SE 100 2370.5 (+10.0)
New York Dow Jones 2947.28 (+14.61)
Tokyo Nikkei Avege 32575.32 (+281.14)
Closing Prices ... Page 25

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank 15-14 1/2%
3-month eligible bills 14 1/2-14%
US: Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 8 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills 7.75-7.78%
30-year bonds 101 1/2-101 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York: £ \$1.7915
Paris: DM 166.54
Swiss: Sfr 1.4065
FFr 5.5510
Yen 148.85
Hong Kong: HK\$ 7.75
Euro: ECU 1.431040
SDR 1.344241

GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$353.20 pm \$351.45
Close \$351.50-352.00 (£196.25-196.75)
New York: Comex \$351.90-352.40

NORTH SEA OIL

Brant (Aug) \$16.45 bbl (\$16.20)
Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.375	2.215	
Austria Sch	21.70	20.40	
Belgium Fr	21.54	20.34	
Canada \$	11.78	11.08	
Denmark Kr	10.52	9.74	
Finland Mk	3.08	2.80	
France Fr	14.50	13.60	
Germany Dm	1.155	1.085	
Greece Dr	22.50	21.20	
Hong Kong \$	7.75	7.25	
Italy Lira	20.50	19.50	
Japan Yen	3.46	3.27	
Netherlands Gld	11.96	11.16	
Norway Kr	28.5	25.45	
Portugal Esc	5.90	5.20	
South Africa Rd	18.5	17.5	
Spain Ptas	11.12	10.52	
Sweden Kr	4.930	4.530	
Switzerland Fr	2.00	1.85	
Turkey Lira	25.00	19.00	
USA \$			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 126.2 (May)

Enquiry into Hawker shares after warning

By COLIN CAMPBELL

AN INTERNATIONAL Stock Exchange enquiry is being launched after price fluctuations in Hawker Siddeley shares yesterday.

Hawker Siddeley, whose shares fell 79p to 531p at their worst, had given warning that profits would be hit by between £25 million and £30 million this year because of contract losses, although the timing of its formal announcement is controversial.

The 21-line statement had been prepared at a morning board meeting, released at 1.30 pm and embargoed until 2 pm, when Hawker Siddeley shares fell from 610p.

However, yesterday morning, Cazenove, the group's broker, effected a transaction involving a parcel of between 1.1 million and 1.5 million Hawker Siddeley shares, matching up the buyer with the seller at 590p. The transaction was at 16p below the then ruling market price.

Anthony Forbes, Cazenove's joint senior partner, said his firm does not comment on market affairs. "Clients' business is clients' business."

The shares later recovered to trade at 548p, for a 62p fall on the day.

Hawker Siddeley confirmed that by late afternoon it had been made aware of the morning's events, but could throw no light on Cazenove's

actions. David Bury, Hawker Siddeley's financial director, said: "It is very unfortunate."

He added Hawker Siddeley had not been in a position to make its announcement any earlier.

Mr Bury said: "The contract problems were initially identified in February. We set about further investigations. Brian Page, divisional manager of Hawker Siddeley Power Engineering, resigned in April."

"By last Friday, we had gathered the necessary pieces of paper, worked all weekend, held an executive meeting on Wednesday, and called a Thursday morning board meeting."

The group's statement said: "An extensive investigation has only just been completed which has revealed an estimated loss position for 1990 of between £25 million and £30 million which will mainly impact on the interim figures."

The losses arise out of cost over-runs because of contract delays and "unsatisfactory administrative control" arising when the division became "over-extended by rapid expansion in 1988 on projects completing in 1990".

Mr Bury said: "Heads have already rolled."

City dissatisfaction with the day's events was compounded by a wave of fresh market talk yesterday morning that Hawker Siddeley had "problems".

UBS Phillips & Drew, the

broker, had been concerned enough to send a fax to Hawker Siddeley's head office, outlining its fears that various problems would hit group profits this year.

P&D also downgraded its 1990 and 1991 profits forecasts.

The Stock Exchange said it would not comment on individual companies or individual price movements. However, a spokesman said it was standard procedure and automatic practice to investigate undue price fluctuations.

The diversified engineering group has been beset by market talk of problems for several months.

Mr Bury said the company's investigation into contract losses had been made "in total secrecy" and that he had been unable to communicate properly with analysts during "this difficult period".

Hawker Siddeley has called in two sets of management consultants, WS Atkins and Price Waterhouse, who will report to the board within three weeks. They have been briefed to examine all contracts, though Hawker Siddeley believes its problems are "one-off" and that "we have put a strap around them".

The problem areas were two or three specific contracts in America and a couple in Britain.

Tempos, page 23
Stock market, page 24

SE probes market confusion

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE Stock Exchange is setting up a working party to discuss the confused share trading on June 29 and to decide whether to change the way FT-SE 100 index futures and options prices are calculated to prevent it happening again.

The exchange has, however, rejected accusations of market-rigging. "Allegations that the market was false or improperly manipulated are without foundation," it said.

The accusations came after buying and selling prices in blue-chip shares crossed over, between 11.10 and 11.20am, when the FT-SE index was being calculated for the expiry of June options and futures.

Market-makers complained that some houses refused to answer their phones to deal at quoted prices.

The working party is due to report before the end of September and the expiry of the next set of options contracts. Andrew Hugh Smith, the exchange chairman, was unavailable for comment.

Comment, page 23

Rank shares slump on halfway figures

By MARTIN WALLER

RANK Organisation, still waiting Office of Fair Trading clearance for its £500 million-plus bid for Mecca Leisure Group, surprised the stock market with its interim figures, sending its share price tumbling 48p to 789p.

Pre-tax profits were at £137.6 million against £111 million for the 28 weeks to May 12, and the interim dividend is raised from an adjusted 9.2p to 10.25p.

The profits are heavily boosted by one-off items, and there is a warning from the Rank chairman, Sir Patrick Meaney, that short-term prospects will be affected by current economic pressures in Britain and the United States.

There was some anger among market-makers that the extent of the effect of the economic slowdown on Rank was not made apparent at the time of the bid, which offered new Rank shares for the Mecca ordinaries.

Trading profits from Rank were virtually flat at £53.4 million against £52.1 million, and there is a £6 million

contribution from "favourable items", comprising the sale of the Rank Training film library minus losses on the Novair charter airline.

The contribution from its holding in Rank Xerox rose from £77.9 million to £80 million. Rank had a benefit of £9.5 million profit made from the redemption of a Eurobond issue. Interest charges fell from £20.4 million to £6.7 million following a rights issue this year, but this figure is flattered by an unspecified amount of interest capitalised on the Universal film studios.

Michael Gifford, the Rank chief executive, said all the factors that had an impact on the half year's trading had been well flagged. Rank has pinpointed advertising and capital spending downturns in the UK, and the poor market for second homes in the United States, which knocked £9 million off trading profits, as the principal adverse factors.

Dividends of about £450,000 each.

The firm's dealers rang clients at home or in their offices, encouraging them to buy risky futures contracts. High commissions, sometimes as much as half the amount being invested, swallowed all the investor's capital.

During the four-month trial, the defendants insisted they had operated a legitimate concern and had given adequate warnings about the risk of loss to their 3,400 clients.

The four were charged with falsely representing that DPR was engaged in a genuine and honest business that could give an efficient service to clients; falsely representing that DPR employed staff of experience, skill and expertise in the futures market; charged excessive commissions to clients and made extravagant and misleading claims as to the profits likely to be realised by clients.

Champagne for 'churn and burn' quartet DPR founders cleared of dishonesty



"The right verdict": Andrew Page, left, Marcus Deller, David Rycott and Ian Rycott who were acquitted yesterday

By STEPHEN LEATHER

CHURN 'em and burn 'em was the motto of DPR Futures. The wheeler-dealers behind the firm typified all that was bad about the "yuppie age".

Their car collection included a Porsche, a Ferrari and a BMW, they pinned £5 notes on office walls, made salesmen stand up when telephoning customers and paid themselves huge salaries while clients lost money.

But yesterday an Old Bailey jury cleared the four company founders of dishonest trading. When the unanimous verdict was announced, Andrew Page, aged 31; David Rycott, aged 25; his brother Ian, aged 32; and Marcus Deller, aged 27, hugged each other and headed for the nearest wine bar to drink champagne. Mr Deller said: "I regret that DPR is not still running. I regret we did not make as much money for clients as

we thought we would." David Rycott said: "I am glad it is all over. This is the right verdict."

Mr Page said: "We are considering legal action against the Securities and Investments Board for closing us down and we are going to try and get back company cash now in the hands of the liquidators."

DPR was founded in 1986 when Mr Page, David Rycott and Mr Deller each put up £10,000. Ian Rycott joined later as training manager. In 20 months, they took £12.5 million in commission.

DPR promised to make fortunes in days for clients - referred to as "oiks". To add atmosphere, a tape recorder in the office blared out the noises of a bustling office. David Rycott and Mr Page paid themselves £905,000, an annual bonus of £175,000 each and

dividends of about £450,000 each.

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Facing reality at Storehouse



Gloomy outlook: Sir Terence Couran, flanked by fellow Storehouse directors Kevyn Jones and Margaret Downes

BhS more cautious than M&S on outlook

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

CONTRASTING pictures of life on the high street were presented to shareholders of two of Britain's biggest retail groups at their annual meetings yesterday.

Lord Rayner, the outgoing chairman of Marks and Spencer, told shareholders that their company would not be joining the list of retailers forecasting disappointing results.

But Ian Hay Davison, the new chairman of Storehouse, which owns BhS, M&S's rival, said the group's results were far from satisfactory, although better than had once been feared.

Lord Rayner said M&S had strengthened its dominant position in lingerie, socks and underwear. Unseasonal weather in June depressed demand for summer fashion, but food sales have been encouraging. M&S shares rose 2 1/2p to 234 1/2p, but some analysts were disappointed at the lack of details on current sales.

Mr Hay Davison, who faced questions from angry shareholders, including a suggestion that the group be broken up, said overall sales were "usefully ahead of last year", but margins remained under pressure. The interim results, which are to be announced in November, are unlikely to do more than match last year's figures, but the group is optimistic about the full year.

News that BhS was improving under the management of David Dworkin helped lift Storehouse's share price 3p to 129p. Mr Dworkin said July was proving the best month of this financial year.

OECD predicts setback for British jobs growth

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

EMPLOYMENT growth in Britain will slow sharply this year to 0.5 per cent from 3.1 per cent last year, with a small decline in 1991, says the Organisation for Co-operation and Development.

But the annual OECD Employment Outlook highlights Britain's strong performance on the jobs front in recent years, including progress made in reintegrating the long-term unemployed.

A slowdown in employment growth in the OECD area is predicted, to a level just sufficient

to absorb growth in the labour force. Britain's labour force is expected to increase 0.4 per cent this year and next. For the past two years the annual rise has been 0.9 per cent.

The unemployment rate is expected to fall to 6.1 per cent this year from 6.2 per cent last year, below the OECD average. Next year, it is predicted to rise to 6.5 per cent, matching the expected OECD average.

Unit labour costs are expected to fall to 8.6 per cent this year and 5.7 per cent next after 9.1 per cent last year, two

percentage points above the OECD average.

Employment growth stayed particularly strong in Britain last year, while reaching its highest levels since 1973 in West Germany, France and Japan. The OECD highlights the successes in reintegrating the long-term unemployed in Britain, with long-term unemployment falling faster than the overall rate.

OECD long-term joblessness is still high, despite the sixth consecutive fall in the unemployment rate last year.

Pound tumbles on Ridley remarks

By OUR ECONOMIC CORRESPONDENT

ANTI-GERMAN and anti-European comments from Nicholas Ridley, the trade secretary, sent the pound tumbling yesterday, reinforcing the correction on Wednesday.

Sterling hit 92.9 on the trade-weighted index as Mr Ridley's interview in the Spectator started to take effect. It closed at 93.3, only 0.2 points below the previous finish.

after Mr Ridley's retraction and assurances that his views were not government policy.

The pound closed more than a cent lower at \$1.7915 but managed to end 0.31 pence higher at DM2.9721, after rebounding during the afternoon from a day's low below DM2.9500.

In the money markets, the key three-month interbank rate firmed slightly to 15.14 1/2 per cent.

The Bundesbank policy-setting council left key lending rates unchanged yesterday. Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank president, said West Germany should not see higher inflation this year than in previous years, despite monetary union with East Germany.

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Ratners faces objections over Kay bid

From JOHN DURIE IN NEW YORK

RATNERS Group faces a battle in its bid for Kay Jewelers, the American company, after bond holders objected to the terms of the offer. Ratners, under the provisions of the \$421 million bid, has made its offer conditional on the bond holders accepting 75 cents in the dollar for their bonds. But the bonds, totalling \$100 million, were issued on the basis that holders had the right to put them back to the company at face value. Ms Debora Pederson, from IDS Financial Services, said: "We have lent this company \$100 million and they are proposing to give us back 75 per cent."

"They make money on this transaction in a big way and we lose money on this transaction in a big way."

Ms Pederson, who speaks for 12.9 per cent of the issue, claims 85 per cent of the bond holders have decided not to accept the offer, which closes on August 6.

The management of Kay Jewelers controls 50 per cent of the shares. Ratners has offered shareholders \$17 a share, which is

well above the market value at the time of its offer on July 2. The figure also compares with trading in the company earlier this year at \$8 a share. PaineWebber, Ratners' adviser, claims the offer is generous.

It added that bond holders must decide whether 75 cents in cash is better than any lower figure they may receive if the bid collapses.

Kay Jewelers has traded poorly recently, with a profit of \$196,000 last year, compared with a \$10.9 million profit in 1988.

Ratners appears to be taking advantage of last year's collapse in the junk bond market to buy back the debt cheaply. Some companies have managed to do this, though bond holders are now resisting selling out cheaply where possible. Ms Pederson commented: "Bond holders are simply bewildered because they think Ratners is being poorly advised."

She added: "We thought Ratners was a class act, but this bid is really unprecedented in giving equity holders a very sweet deal and robbing bond holders."

Benjamin Priest slips to £7.9m

By MARTIN BARROW

BENJAMIN Priest, the specialist engineering concern that has been at the centre of persistent takeover speculation, reported a 3 per cent fall in pre-tax profits for the year to end-March.

Two of the company's three divisions suffered falls in operating profits while a higher tax charge further reduced earnings per share.

Christopher Walliker, the chairman, said the results were "encouraging" against a background of economic conditions that became harder as the year progressed.

Pre-tax profits fell from £8.19 million to £7.92 million on turnover 7 per cent up at £108 million. Earnings per share declined from 14.61p to 13.54p, reflecting a tax charge of 31.5 per cent, against 28.7 per cent, now that tax losses from previous years have been exhausted. The total dividend rises 16.7 per cent to 5.25p with a final of 3.75p.

The core specialised components division increased trading profits by £500,000 to £3.5 million on turnover 15 per cent higher at £44.6 million.

However, profits from the marine division declined from £3.12 million to £2.7 million on turnover up £1.8 million to £26.41 million after a cyclical downturn in the important American market.

The engineering services division, affected by the downturn in the housing market, reported profits down from £2.35 million to £2.1 million.



Christopher Walliker: encouraged by results in difficult economic conditions

Geevor writes off £4m and seeks new tin mine role

By OUR CITY STAFF

GEEVOR, the mining group, has written off almost £4.1 million in respect of its unprofitable Cornish tin mine, which closed in February following another collapse in tin prices.

Geevor has yet to decide the future of the mine and is exploring alternative uses for the site, including its development as a tourist attraction.

But with tin prices languishing at around £3,300 a ton — against a required price of £5,000 to break even — a return to production seems unlikely, even though the mine has reserves of about 5,000 tons.

Mark Wellesley-Wood, the former mining analyst who became chief executive last month, said: "We do not intend to run into the next financial year with an unprofitable tin mine."

Mr Wellesley-Wood, who becomes chairman next month when the present incumbent, Eric Grayson, retires, said: "Trading losses incurred before the closure of the mine left Geevor with pre-tax losses of £1.43 million for the year ended March (£10,000) on turnover up from £3.37 million to £4.85 million. Losses were 6.52p a share, compared

with earnings of 1.27p a share last time. The Cornish write-off, taken with after-tax losses of £1.42 million, resulted in an attributable deficit of £5.41 million. There is again no dividend."

After the collapse of tin prices, the company diversified into coal and gold in the UK and overseas and is eager to acquire further mineral interests. In Pennsylvania, Geevor is mining coal at an average rate of 21,000 tons a month.

The re-opened Mainband pit in Cumbria, a former British Coal drift mine, is building up production and is expected to be in profit in the second half of the current year. It has recently won a contract to supply National Power with a maximum of 2,000 tons a week.

In Costa Rica, Geevor is seeking finance to fund its 75.23 per cent stake in the Nor-Quest Western gold prospect, with attributable reserves of 210,000 Troy ounces, into production.

Mr Wellesley-Wood said the gold leaching operation in Ecuador had been delayed by problems associated with the chemical processing plant.

Geevor shares traded at 39p, down 1p.

Nobo in 34% fall to £1.9m

By OUR CITY STAFF

NOBO Group, the visual aids and office equipment group that issued a trading warning this year, suffered a 34 per cent decline in taxable profits to £1.92 million in the year to the end of March on turnover 24 per cent up at £25.92 million.

Earnings per share fell from 17.24p to 11.65p but the total dividend is maintained at 6.6p a share, with a 4.18p final.

Reg Barr and Peter Kent, the joint chairmen, said that the fall in profits reflected destocking by customers and a downturn in trading activity. The company had responded with higher spending on sales promotion and marketing, which had eroded margins.

In April, Nobo announced that it was in the early stages of merger talks, sending the shares sharply higher to 150p. However, one month later the directors said that the talks had been aborted. After the profits news yesterday, the shares were 122p, down 2p.

US phone group in \$6.2bn bid

From OUR CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK

SHARES in American telephone companies soared yesterday after GTE Corp bid \$6.2 billion for Contel Corp.

The deal, by way of a share swap, is one of the largest takeovers in the telecommunications industry.

The bid underlines GTE's strategy of taking a larger share in America's cellular telephone market.

GTE, which is considering a \$350 million takeover of Thorn EMI's lighting division, has expanded rapidly in the cellular telephone market. Its mobile cellular network, serving a population area of 23 million people, is one of the largest in America. The acquisition of the Contel cellular business would give GTE 18 million potential subscribers in the race to build large regional cellular telephone networks.

Contel has annual sales of about \$3 billion. The company said its board was considering the offer.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Amec likely to win oil platform contract

SHARES in Amec, the engineering and construction group, jumped 9p to 449p yesterday on reports that the company is likely to win a £450 million contract to build a North Sea oil and gas production platform. Agip, the Italian oil group, has issued a letter of intent for the contract, which is conditional on the government approving the development plan for the Tiffney field.

The contract will be awarded to Tiffany Contractors, a consortium in which Amec's two subsidiaries, Matthew Hall and Press Off-Shore, have a 66.7 per cent stake.

Flextech rises 92% to £4.9m

FLEXTECH, the USM-quoted oil services and cable television franchisee, increased pre-tax profits by 92 per cent, from £2.58 million to £4.95 million, for the year to end-March. Turnover rose 23 per cent to £31.51 million. The final dividend is 1p (0.75p). Flextech offshoots have won cable television franchises for Oxford and Sheffield.

Electron dips to £4.03m

ELECTRON House, the computer parts distributor, saw pre-tax profits fall by £788,000, to £4.03 million, on sales up 41 per cent to £129.7 million, in the year to end-May. Electron's share of the losses on its 44 per cent-owned US offshoot rose to £687,000, while the interest charge more than doubled to £3.24 million. A final 3.1p payout makes 5.85p (5.6p).

Domino lifts interim

DOMINO Printing Sciences, the ink jet printing specialist, lifted pre-tax profits from £1.95 million to £2.05 million in the six months to end-April. Strong European growth, benefiting from exchange-rate gains, helped turnover grow by 21 per cent to £20.6 million. Earnings per share rose from 6.33p to 6.61p and the interim dividend is 1.75p (1.5p).

Gerald Dennis, the chairman, said that the world market continues to grow. There was an exceptional loss of £520,000, relating to reorganisation costs. Interest payments jumped from £72,000 to £287,000.

Colorgraphic seeks £5.22m

COLORGRAPHIC, the printer and producer of literature for the direct response market, plans to raise £5.22 million, by way of a placing and open offer, to allow greater flexibility in financing the group's future plans. The company plans to issue 2.64 million new ordinary shares at 203p each, on a one for five basis.

Welpac falls to £364,000

WELPAC, the USM-quoted lighting manufacturer and supplier of pre-packed hard ware products, saw pre-tax profits fall from £981,000 to £364,000 during the year to end-January. Eps declined from 2.39p to 1.11p. The total dividend stays at 0.55p a share for the third consecutive year. Turnover was £10.8 million (£11 million).

Jones falls to £6.22m

JONES, Stroud (Holdings), the stretch yarns, name tapes and electrical insulation manufacturer that issued a profit warning in January, has announced pre-tax profits of £6.22 million for the year to end-March, down 12.4 per cent on the previous total of £7.1 million. Sales rose by £1.65 million to £60.3 million.

Peter Jones, finance director, said the company had been hit by increased competition and a squeeze on margins caused by a downturn in trading conditions. Final dividend was held at 5p, making a total of 8p (7.5p) for the year.



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Not funny for a weary banker

COMMENT

No wonder Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the governor of the Bank of England, is fed up about Nicholas Ridley's wild comments on Germans in general and Bundesbank president Karl Otto Pöhl in particular. Mr Leigh-Pemberton has only just returned from a European tour dutifully selling the government's hard-earned idea, first to his fellow central bankers in Basle and then to the European parliament in Strasbourg.

Although Mr Ridley has withdrawn his remarks, what will the Germans, and to a lesser extent their continental partners, conclude? Surely they will conclude that while there are still powerful voices inside the British cabinet arguing in such terms against the slightest move towards further integration with Europe, there is no point in even discussing alternative British proposals for economic and monetary union. At a stroke the attempts of the Chancellor, John Major, and the Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, to present a more co-operative face to Europe have been undermined. It is a poor welcome home for a footsore

Poor Ranking

Analysts who were sharply critical of Granada Group's figures on Wednesday must have been regretting their harsh words yesterday when Rank

Organisation, Granada's old sparring partner, set out its own halfway profits. The bears, who have been saying for months that Michael Gifford's go-go leisure stock was not all it was cracked up to be, are openly crowing. The bulls are maintaining an embarrassed silence. Just what Mecca shareholders have to say does not bear thinking about.

Rank must have been aware of a sharp downturn in its core leisure and entertainment businesses well before the offer document, which boasted of earlier "sustained growth" in trading profits, came off the presses on June 15. But the outside world was required to await the interim, the publication date of which was announced only after the Mecca board had capitulated, and Rank had gained 50 per cent acceptance

books, or that there are even higher debts than previously admitted. It is tempting to conclude that the two companies deserve each other, but shareholders deserve better.

Future tense

The chairman of the new International Stock Exchange working party, as yet unnamed, to look into calculation of futures and options prices, and the chaotic trading that developed at the end of June, will hold a very hot potato. At stake is the credibility of London's derivatives markets, just as they are on the threshold of a trumpeted merger. The exchange's initial enquiry into the events of June 28, when share prices fluctuated wildly while the futures and options strike price were being calculated, has concluded there was no overt wrongdoing by brokers. The

establishment of the committee is a *de facto* admission that the rules themselves must be at fault. Something must indeed be wrong when bid and offer prices in Britain's largest companies cross over in a welter of arbitrage trading. Still more when other brokers, spotting the instant profit opportunity, are unable to deal because telephone lines are jammed.

Ideally, the working party will have the scope to report on the shortfalls in both the cash and derivatives markets, and suggest amendments to trading methods, index calculation and terms of futures contracts. Arbitrage between the markets has become a permanent fixture. The market authorities have now been given a taste of the consequences of non-cooperation. The fact the committee must report before the expiry of the September contracts is witness to the urgency in the review. Unless its suggestions are agreed and implemented by then, market-makers can expect another roller-coaster Friday, with the world's financial community sniggering on the sidelines.

Rolls plots the escape route to a bigger break



Lord Tombs: nuclear power will be back on the agenda

LORD Tombs, chairman of Rolls-Royce, plays a brisk game of snooker. He spots the chances well and keeps a shrewd eye on his targets.

The corporate analogies at Rolls-Royce are necessarily less clear. Rolls, with its recent acquisition of power engineer NEI would potentially be a lot better off if Britain's nuclear power programme had not been halted.

Then there is the price of the peace dividend for companies involved in defence work. About 25 per cent of Rolls turnover is down to military engines. There are already cutbacks in Tornado fighter-bomber orders, the Government having cancelled 33, and questions still hang over some export prospects. Rolls is also awaiting the fate of the projected European Fighter Aircraft (EFA).

With both the Tornado and EFA engines, Rolls has a one-third stake in a partnership venture.

Lord Tombs disputes that either situation leaves the company snookered even though Rolls has already given warning of possible restructuring of military engine construction at its Bristol factory.

Rolls is looking to civil engine manufacture to make up any leeway on military work. Lord Tombs can point to much recent high scoring on civil engine orders to back his contention.

There has been good news, too, in power engineering, with the netting of National Power's first contract for the new-fashable combined cycle gas-fired power stations. The contract has gone to the partnership of NEI and the Swedish-Swiss group Asea Brown Boveri (ABB).

Since the NEI acquisition, non-aero engine interests account for more than 30 per cent of Rolls turnover. More diversification is possible, but there are no firm current prospects, said Lord Tombs. He believes nuclear generation of electricity will be back on the agenda in Britain, partly because it is environmentally clean power. The true costs of trying to clean up fossil-fuel methods of generation have also to make their

full impact, he maintains. He added: "Decommissioning of nuclear stations will be a big market. We have already done some small decommissioning tasks. It is a market waiting to be tackled. No British company and not many internationally have our capability."

Until the outbreak of peace between West and East, Rolls projections for the military engine market until 2004 was £88 billion, with more than two-thirds of it accounted for by combat aircraft. Lord Tombs said: "Those figures will have to be changed clearly. But I do not know what we should be writing in."

He remains optimistic about the prospects for the EFA, and is doubtful that West Germany might pull out. Rolls and its Eurojet partners are already involved in a development contract, worth an estimated £650 million, for the aircraft's engine. This would, at worst, leave them with an operating power unit which would have numerous potential applications.

He believes there will be more emphasis on financially cheaper fighter and light bombers as the military turns more to rapid-response strategies. This points to the Harrier, powered by Rolls's Pegasus engine, and the Adour-powered Hawk trainer and light attack aircraft. Lord Tombs said: "We have a more robust military portfolio than our competitors."

might, glows about Rolls' performance in civil aircraft engines. At the Derby engine assembly plant, Frank Turner, the director for civil engines, has had a three-shift system in operation for a year as orders have surged. Every ounce is now being squeezed from seven-day operation by extending the night shift from four nights each week to the full seven days.

Rolls is in its third record year for orders. Mr Turner forecasts a continuing growth rate of 5 per cent a year and believes a rash of ageing aircraft over the next five years represents good pickings on a re-engining market.

Rolls is the world's third largest aero engine producer after the two American companies, General Electric and Pratt & Whitney. Lord Tombs' gleam at recent successes against the opposition prompts him to joke about "our contemporaries".

At Derby, an advanced integrated manufacturing system (Aims) has reduced production lead times and inventories. Improvements have been achieved without adding to workforce numbers.

Production last year rose 30 per cent on the year before. Another 10 per cent improvement is expected this year, with a further 3 to 4 per cent projected for next year.

Mr Turner said: "In the early 1980s, it took 16 weeks to build an RB211 engine. Now, we build one in six weeks. We will be building them in four weeks as we keep in step with sales."

A key reason for the Rolls success in civil engines is a family of power plants suitable for most airline applications. Its most powerful power plant, the Trent, which should start being manufactured in the Derby factory in 18 months' time, is aimed at the fast-expanding wide-bodied jetliner market. Initially, the Trent will go into the Airbus A330 and the McDonnell Douglas MD-11. But Rolls also expects to pick up 30 per cent of the market which Boeing's new long-range wide-bodied 777 will unlock.

Derek Harris

Hawker drops a bombshell

HAWKER Siddeley has lost most of its friends and picked up a lot of enemies after yesterday's muddled events that saw its share price tumble 79p at the day's worst to 531p.

The group's warning that profits will be hit to the tune of £25 million to £30 million this year because of cost over-runs within the electrical power contracting division was bad enough. What was worse was that the 21-line statement had to be printed out of the group like a fighting oyster clinging to its shell.

Analysts had initially thought Hawker Siddeley would make pre-tax profits of £230 million this year, compared with the reported pre-tax £202.1 million for 1989. However, over the past few weeks forecasts had been trimmed and in recent days further cut to £200 million.

Now market forecasts are down to £180 million for 1990, equivalent to net earnings of 55.6p, with a tentative £210 million pencilled in for 1991 - assuming Hawker Siddeley does overcome its troubles and recovers.

The cost over-runs within electrical power contracting, which had run up £6 million of losses in 1989, must put question marks over what was billed only in March as a sweeping reorganisation designed to pave the way for a revitalisation of the group. The group insists it has put

a strap around its problems, that they have been specifically identified, and are capable of being resolved.

But Hawker Siddeley remains exposed to currency markets, and sterling's strength will be another rod for its back.

While the dividend, which totalled 25p last year, is not threatened, a sad set of interim results will further dent sentiment and even at prospective p/e of 9.8 the shares look fully priced.

Peel Holdings

WHETHER or not Peel Holdings should have bought London Shop at the start of 1989 is history. The question now is: "How is Peel faring with London Shop on board?" The £300 million acquisition is hurting badly.

Total borrowings of £390 million meant that, in the year to March, Peel was paying an interest bill, including capitalised interest, of more than £1 million a week. By contrast, rental income during the year increased to £46.3 million, leaving a sizeable deficit.

Given those figures - and the need to finance what began the year as a £100 million development programme - it is surprising that the company made any profit at all, let alone the £11 million actually reported, down from £20.1 million the year before.

The money was made selling smaller properties, particularly from London Shop's portfolio, from selling houses and from selling building land from its 11,000-acre agricultural holding.

The problem for shareholders is that the sale of all these is going to be as difficult or more difficult in the current year, making it hard to reduce gearing from the year-end level of 106 per cent. But with interest rates capped, rising rents would allow the London Shop buy to wash its face.

The board is confident and is recommending an unchanged final dividend of 7p, to give a same-again total of 10p a share. On that basis, the shares at 149p, on a 64 per cent discount to net assets, should reward a buyer prepared to wait for the value of Peel's £770 million retail-biased portfolio to go up.

Sun Life

CLEARLY flagged in its annual report, Sun Life's £67.5 million rights issue was one of the most predictable events at the insurer in the last two years. When it arrived, however, it was smaller and cheaper than shareholders had been expecting.

The one-for-seven issue at 800p, compared to 1283p in the market, will not stretch any of its shareholders' pocket.

ets, least of all its two paymasters, TransAtlantic and l'Union des Assurances de Paris (UAP), which control 55.2 per cent between them. For good reason. The money is needed to prop up the group's capital, which stood at just £17.8 million at the end of last year.

TransAtlantic and UAP have effectively underwritten all but 15.6 per cent of the issue. They have also agreed to equalise their holdings to close to 27.5 per cent each. Investors have been waiting for Sun to make a move into the continent using UAP's large tied agent network, and it may finally happen by the autumn.

Total premium income grew 14 per cent, underpinned by growth in the single pension premiums. But there was a slowdown in underlying growth, particularly in savings products, which are suffering the competition from high building society interest rates. The figures, the first from a life company to cover the second quarter, show how business has drained away since the start of the tax year.

On adjusted after-tax profits this year of £36.5 million, the shares are on a p/e ratio of 22. While existing shareholders should take up the rights without delay, newcomers might find the price difficult to justify, despite the continuing question mark over ownership.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Old skiers' network

WILLIAMS de Broe, the agency broker, is certain to become the best firm in the City when it comes to skiing. Richard Williamson, one of the stalwarts of the Stock Exchange Ski Club, is joining the broker on Monday. Williamson, aged 32, and often the winner of the Rowe & Pitman Cup for the fastest inter-bourse skiing competition, will be a European equity salesman. Once there, he will find himself working alongside Mark Gachoud, who helps him the arbitrage desk. Gachoud is generally recognised as the best skier in London. "He was a junior world cup competitor and, as far as London is concerned, he is in a class of his own," said Williamson. It was through this "old boy" skiing network that Williamson landed his job. "Mark introduced me to one or two people in the firm," he admits. Williamson left County NatWest, where he had been a director and head of international equity sales, three months ago. He resigned after County took on more than 100 Dresdner Bank staff, amid reports that he would have found himself reporting to a DBL man. Williamson accepted William de Broe's offer to escape the "politics and paranoia" of a big firm, and the "conflict of interest between principle and agency business." He added: "There is increasing pressure on work-

ing capital to take principle positions and use salesmen in sales trading roles, which is something I have never believed in."

Sleepbroker

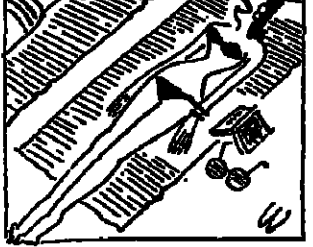
A LONDON man went to see his doctor, begging him to cure him of his loud snoring, adding that he was dreadfully worried that it might cost him his job.

"And what is your job?" the doctor asked. "I'm a stockbroker," came the reply.

A NOTICE in a bank manager's office in Leeds reads: "That money talks I'll not deny. I heard it once. It said goodbye."

Sutherland county

THE revolving doors in the City continue... the team headed by Geoff Allun, the



"How many Hitlers to the Ridley today?"

conglomerates and industrial materials analyst at County NatWest WoodMac, has been boosted by the recruitment of Matthew Sutherland, from Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Figaro's high note

THE clatter of well-heeled footsteps in the marbled offices of Coutts & Co, Royal Bankers, gave way to rather more melodious tones this week. London's high society gathered in the bank's plush headquarters in the Strand for a performance of *Le Nozze di Figaro*, performed by Pimlico Opera. More than 200 clients gathered beneath the trees in the bank's forecourt for the performance, which is expected to become an annual event. Apparently, an opera company which prides itself on performing in unusual places, Pimlico Opera will be taking to the stage tomorrow in the rather less salubrious surroundings of Wormwood Scrubs. "We are to play for up to 200 life prisoners, most of whom have murdered their wives," says Wasfi Kani, the musical director. "It is," he argued, "fitting that, having performed for the bankers to the Queen, we should now play for those detained at Her Majesty's pleasure."

Corker of a stop

WHO said there was no job security in the Square Mile any more? Alan Eason, aged 56, has just celebrated 40 years with Henderson Crosthwaite. Now the firm's senior dealer, and balding and bespectacled,

he readily recalls the day in 1950 when, at the age of 16, he joined WP Nevill Horley, which eventually became part of Henderson. To mark the occasion, he was given a champagne celebration in the firm's St Mary at Hill office. "We had a few bottles of 1982 vintage Bollinger," said Eason. "I think 1950 would have been a bit expensive, even for us."

Sad loss of Schiff

A RAFTING accident on a Scottish river last weekend has claimed the life of one of the City's brightest rising stars, Robert Schiff. Schiff, aged 32, head of institutional sales and a main board director at Granville & Co, the stockbroker, drowned while taking part in an exercise with a number of his ex-army colleagues. An old Etonian, he served in the 15th/19th Hussars before beginning his City career at the banking division of Schroder Wagg. Schiff joined Granville five years ago and built up its institutional broking business from scratch. "He is going to be very badly missed," said Paul Dawson, a colleague. "Not only was he doing an extremely effective job, he was also a heck of a nice chap. He was always very lively. This has cast a cloud of gloom over the whole firm." He leaves a wife, Lucinda, and two children, aged four and two. Schiff's funeral will take place at his parish church in Longparish, Hampshire, at 3 pm on Monday.

Carol Leonard

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Seng index ended at 10,450
3.4-5.9. Prices closed
higher on strong
buying.

TRETT
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DPP v Hutchinson
DPP v Smith (conjoined appeals)
Before Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Griffiths, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton, Lord Goff of Chicheley and Lord Lowry (Speeches July 12)
The RAF Greenham Common Bylaws (SI 1985 No 485) were ultra vires in that they prejudicially affected rights of common, contrary to the proviso to section 14(1) of the Military Lands Act 1892, and were not severable so as to be enforceable in part.
The House of Lords allowed appeals by Jean Emily Hutchinson and Georgina Smith from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Schiemann) (The Times October 25, 1988; [1989] QB 583), who had allowed an appeal by the Director of Public Prosecutions by case stated from Reading Crown Court (Judge Lait and two justices).

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Greenham Common bylaws invalid

(1988) 1 WLR 1522
The Greenham Common bylaws were good examples of the unreasonableness of the sequence of legislative enactments of which the bylaws were a part. The bylaws were made in 1976 and 1980 and contained careful provisions to safeguard rights of common.
His Lordship thought that the proper test to be applied when textual severance was impossible was to abjure speculation as to what the maker of the law might have done if he had applied his mind to the relevant limitation on his power and to ask whether the legislative instrument with the invalid portions omitted would be substantially a different law as to the subject matter dealt with. The bylaws were not severable and the entire instrument was void.
Paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (g), (j) and (l) of the Greenham Bylaws were ultra vires as they stood. Paragraphs (e), (f), (i) and (k) appeared to be valid, and (h) was probably good in part and bad in part.
Textual severance could achieve nothing, since it was apparent that the valid provisions were merely ancillary to the invalid.
A letter from an official of the Ministry of Defence to an objector at the time when the bylaws had been made had concluded: "I can confirm that in accordance with the (1982) Act the bylaws will not affect rights of common."
Mr Laws had invited their Lordships to infer from that that the secretary of state had made the bylaws in the belief that the law would imply the necessary exceptions to prevent them from prejudicially affecting rights of common.
His Lordship did not think that account could be taken of that letter in considering whether the bylaws might be upheld as valid in part, but in any event it was a matter of pure speculation that the writer had had in mind.
The draftsman of the bylaws could not possibly have been ignorant of the terms and effect of the proviso to section 14(1) of the 1892 Act, and the theory of an inadvertent omission applied to the less plausible single similar sets of bylaws had been made between 1976 and 1980 and containing careful provisions to safeguard rights of common.

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Acquiring right of access over another's land

Mills and Another v Silver and Others
Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Parker and Lord Justice Stocker (Judgment July 6)
There was no principle of law that a prescriptive right over land could not be acquired where the use had been tolerated without objection for the appropriate number of years by the landowner.
Sporadic vehicular use of a track on the Black Mountains by a neighbouring farmer without the landowner's permission but with his knowledge and acquiescence was user as of right creating a prescriptive easement by the presumption of a lost grant.
The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments allowing in part an appeal by the first and second defendants. Mr Alan Silver and Miss Alison Davis, from the judgment in April 1989 of Judge Micklethwait, sitting as a judge of the Chancery Division of the High Court at Birmingham, that had held that they had no right of way with vehicles over land belonging to the plaintiffs, Mr and Mrs R. Micklethwait.
However, the Court of Appeal further held that the laying of a stone road by the third defendants, Nash Rocks Stone & Lime Co Ltd, to make the track passable in all weathers constituted an improvement by the first and second defendants that was not authorised by the prescriptive right to which they were entitled and thus amounted to a trespass.
Mr William Hunter for the first and second defendants, Mr Robert Wakefield for the plaintiffs, Mr Mark Anderson for the third defendants.
LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the principal question was whether the first and second defendants were entitled to a right of way with vehicles between their property, called the Hay, and the Hay to Creswell road over a track across the plaintiffs' land, Parcy-Meirch. The defendants' claim was to a private right of way with vehicles by prescription founded on presumption of a lost grant.
The defendants had rashly bought Coed Major in reliance on a statutory declaration as to access. The judge had held that the declaration was false and the defendants had failed to take the precaution of finding out from the plaintiffs before their purchase, whether a right of way along the track was accepted.
Judge Micklethwait decided against the defendants' claim of lost grant, concluding that the past user of the track "was not sufficiently continuous to establish any prescriptive right" and that "equally fatal to the defendants' claim was the nature and extent of that user. The use of the disputed track of which evidence has been given is at very least equally open to explanation as due to tolerance by [previous landowners]."

The House of Lords allowed appeals by Jean Emily Hutchinson and Georgina Smith from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Schiemann) (The Times October 25, 1988; [1989] QB 583), who had allowed an appeal by the Director of Public Prosecutions by case stated from Reading Crown Court (Judge Lait and two justices).

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Recovering property for breach of repairing covenant

Greenwich London Borough v Discreet Selling Estates Ltd
Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Staughton and Sir Rousleyn Cumming-Bruce (Judgment June 20)
Where a landlord served notice of forfeiture for breach of a repairing covenant, a leasee and thereafter accepted payment of rent, no fresh notice was required if, at the date of proceedings for possession, the condition of the demised premises had deteriorated since service of the notice.
The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by the tenant, Discreet Selling Estates Ltd, against the decision on November 1988 of Judge Fox-Andrews, QC, sitting as an official referee, that the landlords, the London Borough of Greenwich, were entitled to possession of premises of which Discreet had acquired the tenancy by assignment in 1973.
Mr John Colyer, QC and Mr Colin Brahm for Greenwich; Mr Martin Mann, QC and Mr Stephen Rubin for Discreet.
LORD JUSTICE

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Single allowance in petroleum revenue tax pipeline claim

BP Oil Development Ltd v Inland Revenue Commissioners
Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Staughton (Judgment July 11)
The allowance against petroleum revenue tax in respect of receipts paid by various oil companies operating in the North Sea under an agreement entitling them to use a pipeline and other facilities belonging to BP Oil Development Ltd was to be a single allowance calculated by reference to all the tariff receipts.
Section 9 of and Schedule 3 to the Oil Taxation Act 1983 did not permit BP's claim to separate allowances calculated by reference to tariff receipts paid for each of the facilities it provided from the Forties Field and for which it made separate charges.
The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the Crofton from the judgment of Mr Justice Vinelott (1989) STC 213) that had upheld appeals, brought by way of case stated from a special commissioner's determination, by BP Oil Development Ltd against assessments to the tax for the six months to December 31, 1983 in a sum of £1,242 million and for the six months to June 30, 1984 in a sum of £1,136 million. BP were refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.
In 1980 BP agreed with a consortium of oil companies (i) to transport through its pipeline running from the Forties Field to the mainland liquids originating from the Brae Field and to separate them into crude oil and raw gas to and store and deliver

European Law Report

Direct effect of equal treatment directive

Foster and Others v British Gas plc
Case C-188/89
Before Sir Gordon Slynn, acting as President, and Judges C. N. Kakouris, F. A. Schockweiler, M. Zuleeg, G. F. Mancini, R. Julliard, F. O' Higgins, J. C. Rodriguez Iglesias, G. Grévisse and M. Diez de Velasco
Advocate General W. Van Gerven (Opinion May 8)
[Judgment July 12]
A body which had been made responsible, pursuant to a measure adopted by the state, for providing a public service under the control of the state and which had for that purpose special powers beyond those normally applicable in relations between individuals was included among the bodies against which the provisions of a directive capable of having direct effect might be relied upon.
By virtue of the Gas Act 1972 which governed British Gas which was a statutory corporation responsible for developing and maintaining a system of gas supply in Great Britain and a monopoly on the supply of gas, the members of the corporation were appointed by the competent secretary of state. He also had the power to give British Gas directions of a general character affecting the national matters affecting the national interest and instructions concerning its management.
British Gas was obliged to submit to the secretary of state periodic reports on the exercise of its functions, its management and its programmes. These reports were then laid before both Houses of Parliament.
British Gas was privatised under the Gas Act 1986. Privatisation resulted in the establishment of British Gas plc, the respondent in the main proceedings, to which the rights and liabilities of British Gas were transferred with effect from August 24, 1986.
The appellants, who were women who were formerly employed by the corporation, were employed to retire by British Gas on various dates between December 7, 1985 and July 22, 1986, on attaining the age of 60.
Those retirements reflected the general policy, pursued by British Gas, of requiring its employees to retire upon reaching the age at which they were entitled to British legislation, that was to say 60 years of age for women and 65 for men.

Luxembourg

Direct effect of equal treatment directive

The House of Lords allowed appeals by Jean Emily Hutchinson and Georgina Smith from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Schiemann) (The Times October 25, 1988; [1989] QB 583), who had allowed an appeal by the Director of Public Prosecutions by case stated from Reading Crown Court (Judge Lait and two justices).

Burden on defendant in foreign law claim

University of Glasgow v The Economist and Another
Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Staughton (Judgment July 11)
The burden of proving that a claimant was entitled to a separate allowance for each asset rather than one aggregate allowance for each user fell on the claimant.
The House of Lords allowed appeals by Jean Emily Hutchinson and Georgina Smith from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Schiemann) (The Times October 25, 1988; [1989] QB 583), who had allowed an appeal by the Director of Public Prosecutions by case stated from Reading Crown Court (Judge Lait and two justices).

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Institute of Actuaries examination

- PRIZES**
Sir Joseph Barn Prize
A D Briggs (London)
Worshipful Company of Actuaries Prizes
D A Collinson (Salisbury); P A Ellis (London)
S Gullat (Peterborough) Miss K. 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Raiding the scrapyards for that new car

Many components are too valuable to throw away. Already, manufacturers are re-using old bits in new models, Kevin Eason writes

The old family car, that sagging heap of rust in the drive, has come to the end of the road in a cloud of blue smoke. The only thing to do is to deliver the beast to a scrapyards, where it is crushed into a tombstone of finished metal, its innards dumped and left to rot. It is ironic that as environmentalists clamour for measures to clean up the car, virtually all efforts have been directed at what comes out of the tailpipe.

Cars are ten times cleaner than they were a decade ago, thanks to more economical fuel use and better engines, but there is still much to be done. There are 600 different materials in the average family saloon, some a cocktail of lethal chemicals, and every one created by a huge amount of energy.

When a scrap dealer hands over a few pounds for your old car, he is paying mainly for the steel that can be recycled. Other components, from batteries to steering wheels, are thrown away. Engine oil and brake fluids are allowed to

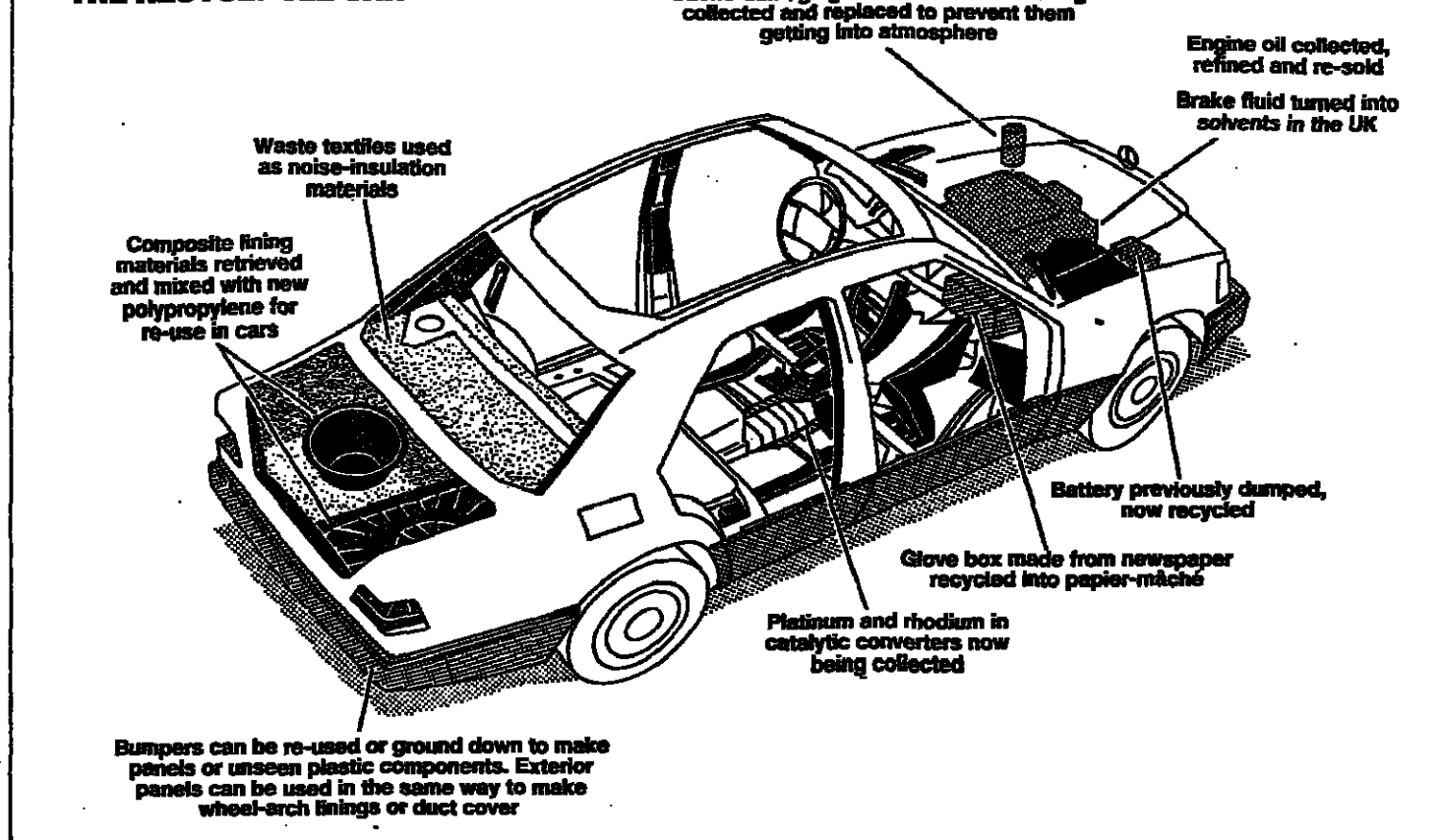
drain into the soil and tyres are thrown on to piles to become a pollutant if they catch fire - as has happened twice recently.

But green thinking in car factories is leading to a radical approach, which could make the family car as recyclable as bottles, cans and newspapers. The lead has come from West Germany, where the three leading manufacturers are investing in "disassembly lines" to recycle old cars. By the 2000, they will buy back your old car to strip it of all its useful parts. Some of these will be recycled as lesser-grade materials, but many could be revived and turned up again in your new car, indistinguishable from new components.

For example, how many Mercedes-Benz owners realise that much of the dashboard of their expensive luxury saloon is made up of waste newspaper? Since the 1950s, the Stuttgart manufacturer has been using old paper turned into papier-mâché to form the glove-box compartment.

Mercedes-Benz also uses recycled textile waste in the insula

THE RECYCLABLE CAR



tion mats and parcel shelves, and recycled PVC goes into car floor-mats. The company has started a pilot scheme to retrieve damaged plastic bumpers, which, if they cannot be refurbished, are ground down and re-used for other parts of the bodywork, such as wheel-arch linings.

Mercedes engineers say they will soon be able to re-use batteries, engine fluids, plastics, textiles and tyres. Engine oils are already being collected, refined

and put back on the market. A British company takes brake fluids from old Mercedes cars and makes it into solvents.

Many materials, such as platinum and rhodium, which are in the catalytic converters now used on thousands of British cars, are too valuable to throw away.

There are estimated to be two tonnes of platinum in 500,000 Mercedes converters. This platinum and nearly half a tonne of rhodium in the converters are

worth at least £35 million. BMW is also exploring the possibility of buying back its oldest models for recycling, and a site originally planned for a nuclear-power station, scrapped under pressure from environmentalists, is being used by the company for a reprocessing plant.

Analysis by Audi engineers shows that aluminium, sparingly used in cars because of the heavy price of processing, could be more cost-effective than conven-

tionally-used steel. Audi engineers say the significant weight gains in a car extensively made up of aluminium produce a fuel saving of about half a gallon every 60 miles. During the working life of the car, the fuel savings could easily pay back the cost of processing the aluminium.

That is the sort of unseen energy dividend that could prove just as important to the future of the environment as the fuel that motorists put into their tanks.

ROADWISE

Best of over-50s

Mature drivers already have a good reputation with insurance companies, but Shell Gemini and Choice magazine are looking for the best of the over-50s. The prize is a holiday for two in the south of France, including seats for the 1991 Monaco Grand Prix. National finals will be held in October at Donington Park in the east Midlands.

Longer warranty

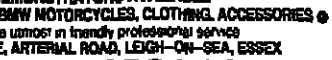
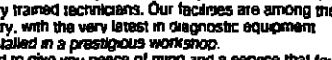
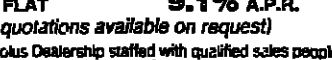
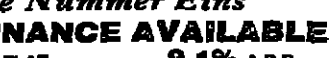
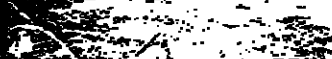
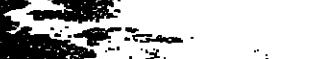
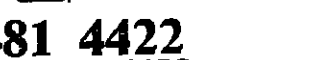
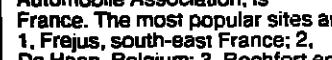
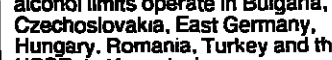
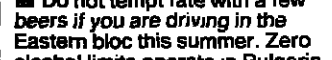
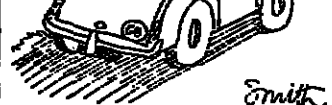
Proton, the Malaysian manufacturer new to Britain, is now offering six-year warranty on engines and gearboxes. The deal is added to low-cost insurance and a two-year or 50,000-mile warranty on other components in the car.

Bm-Brum

The Birmingham Super Prix will go into its fourth year of racing on the city's dual carriageways on August 26. The Sunday timetable starts with qualifying laps, plus a TVR Tuscan championship, followed on Bank Holiday Monday by the climax of the F3000 Super Prix race.

Beer ban

Do not tempt fate with a few beers if you are driving in the Eastern bloc this summer. Zero alcohol limits operate in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Romania, Turkey and the USSR. In Yugoslavia, an intoxicated person may not travel in the front seat.



Return of the Mini Cooper

A car that was a style symbol of the Sixties is on sale again

THE MINI not only goes on and on as one of the world's oldest models, but from strength to strength after 31 years in production.

Rover this week relaunched the Mini Cooper, the powerhouse that won its reputation on the rally circuits of Europe. Only a week ago, a Mini Cooper driven by Paddy Hopkirk won the 2,000-mile Pirelli Classic Marathon from London to the French Riviera.

The new car has been developed in conjunction with John Cooper, the "father" of the rally marque, and ERA Specialist Cars. It takes on a heritage that ended in 1971. By then, nearly 145,000

Coopers and Cooper S cars had been sold.

The Mini Cooper, in British racing green, with twin white stripes, became famous around the world and made the cars into screen stars in the film, *The Italian Job*.

The new look has a choice of colours - red, green, white, black or grey - and two white bonnet stripes.

Performance is hardly going to challenge the modern line-up of GTs, but the 1275cc A-series engine is good for 61bhp. A catalytic converter is standard. Price is £5,995.

Top speed is 92mph and 0 to 60mph takes 11.2 seconds through a four-speed manual

gearbox. Fuel consumption is still an admirable 37.8 miles to the gallon of petrol, unleaded now.

Meanwhile, specially prepared versions of Rover's new Metro have broken 21 land-speed records in the class for cars with engine sizes between 1100cc and 1500cc.

Over two days, two Metro GTs, fitted with the fuel-injected, K-series, 1.4-litre, 16-valve engine, built at Longbridge, Birmingham, achieved maximum speeds of more than 130mph and an average cruising speed of 121.33mph at the Millbrook proving ground near Bedford.

KEVIN EASON



Maximum memories: Nostalgia rides with Rover's flash Mini Cooper (right) next to a 1960s model

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B.M.W.

BMW M5
Diamond black/full champagne leather interior, very high specification including electric seats, automatic air conditioning and thick alloy wheels, rear spoiler, decklid with delivery mileage. Registered June 1990.
Glenavill Co. Ltd.
Cape Hill
Tel: 0334 53346.

M3 EVOLUTION
1989
Macau Blue
14,500 miles, air conditioning, adjustable suspension, heated seats, CD system, all electrics.
£24,750.
TEL: 0202 847272.

3168 March 1990, Grey, 12,000 miles, FSH, PAS, electric windows, central locking, £10,500. Tel: 02631 50950.

3188 1988 model, 4 door, 19,000 miles, only, FSH, sunroof, £9,750. Tel: 0738 811416.

3188 1988 model, 4 door, 19,000 miles, only, FSH, sunroof, £9,750. Tel: 0738 811416.

3200 1989 G reg, Manual, White with Anthracite Grey int. Sunroof, Alloy, £16,995. Tel: 02953 77269 (Cardiff).

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SSSE

vs the way

Danny Roden, of Mellor, quickly put England into the lead for the first time in this series but at the quarter they were 6-6. By the half England led 1-7 and their defences held the Canadians to only five goals after the interval. Martin Clarke, of Heaton Mersey, scored twice to make his tally 11 in the series.

FOOTBALL SCORES: England v. Wrotham: D. Roden 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. **10-0.** Clarke 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. **10-0.** Roden 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. **10-0.** Roden 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. **10-0.** Roden 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. **10-0.** Roden 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. **10-0.** Roden 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. **10-0.** Roden 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. **10-0.** Roden 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. **10-0.** Roden 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93,



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ships. It is improbable that anybody who enjoyed the sight of Steve Heard holding off the unrelenting challenge of Eugene Gilkes over one circuit of the Kirkby track in Liverpool in 1980 has yet forgotten the occasion.

Danny Roden, of Meltor, quickly put England into the lead for the first time in the series: but at the quarter they were 6-6. By the half England led 1-7 and their defences held the Indians to only five goals after the interval: Martin Clarke, of Meaton Mersey, scored twice to make his tally 11 in the series.

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Shastri all assurance as Indians dominate

By TONY WINLAW
TROWBRIDGE: The Indians, with four first-mings wickets in hand, are 217 runs ahead of the Minor Counties.

THE Indians gave further assurance of their batting strength as they scored 512 for six against the Minor Counties here yesterday. They have not been dismissed in seven innings of the tour, in scoring 1,864 runs for the loss of only 26 wickets.

Azharuddin, the captain, and Shastri, who opened, each played finely for 105 apiece. Raman and Tendulkar scored half-centuries and there was a debut of character from Kapil Dev (47) and Manjrekar (40) on an easy-paced pitch on this popular Wiltshire ground.

On the first day, Broderick and Roberts, the Minor Counties opening batsmen, took full advantage of it but yesterday their team's attack posed precious few problems.

One possible batting concern for India is the selection as opening batsman to partner Sidhu in the first Test match, at Lord's on July 26. Raman and Shastri are candidates and both stated their claims with credit in a first-wicket partnership of 102. Raman played some graceful drives in his 55 before being caught in the slips, and Shastri revealed that he has the temperament in an unfamiliar role.

Shastri, a regular No. 5 when second in the batting averages for Glamorgan last season, scored a Test hundred when opening for India on their tour of Pakistan in 1982. He admittedly spent 13 overs in the 90s but then reached his hundred in style - advancing down the wicket to Greenwood and hitting him for six over the sightscreen.

After Shastri was bowled, sweeping at Evans, the off spinner, Azharuddin held the seat of power with a perfect array of well-timed strokes. Earlier, Manjrekar had played the most handsome of all innings before he was run out for 40 and Kapil Dev delighted while scoring 47 off 39 balls. He hit three straight sixes and in one over drove Evans for two sixes.

There came another innings of real promise from Tendulkar, with noted drives off his legs, in 65 runs.

INDIAN COUNTRY: First innings 293 for 9 (G K Brown 103, M J Roberts 85, A Kumble 6 for 49).

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CRICKET

A rerun of one of the greatest ties in game's history

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE four most powerful teams in England were kept apart yesterday in a NatWest Trophy draw which retains the possibility of two awe-inspiring collisions at the semi-final stage.

Strictly on form, a guide which can regularly be dispensed with in the one-day game, Lancashire, Middlesex and Hampshire have the home ties they will welcome in the quarter-final round on August 1, while Worcestershire, although faced with the sternest test at Northampton, must also be fancied to advance.

Lancashire's task is ostensibly the easiest, as they will be at Old Trafford against Gloucestershire, who prop up the county championship without a win and could not by any stretch of the imagination be thought the country's happiest side.

Eddie Barlow, in the first year of his coaching contract, knows the scale of his mission and, after the premature retirement of David Graveney, one or two more established players could be leaving at the end of the season.

Gloucestershire are not, however, without ability, especially when Courtney Walsh is motivated. Walsh's six for 21 destroyed Kent's hopes on Wednesday and even Lancashire's deep and resourceful

Quarter-final draw

Lancashire v Gloucestershire
Northamptonshire v Worcestershire
Middlesex v Glamorgan
Hampshire v Yorkshire
Matches to be played on Wednesday, August 1.

batting must treat him with due respect.

The fascination of this tie, however, is in the memories it will evoke of the 1971 semi-final, on the same ground, watched by more than 23,000 people and won, just in time for the nine o'clock news, by some furious hitting from a young all-rounder named David Hughes. Nineteen years on, greyer and wiser, Hughes is leading Lancashire in what must be viewed as a challenge for the four leading county trophies, the first of which will be decided in tomorrow's Benson and Hedges Cup final at Lord's.

Hughes's reaction to a rerun of one of the greatest ties in history was to be "staggered", which is what most people will be if Lancashire do not win more comfortably this time.

Middlesex, top of the Britannia Assurance Championship and the Refuge Assurance League, are Lancashire's mid-season rivals as the team of 1990. They have won the 60-over competition four times and were last year's beaten finalists, so they ought to know too much for Glamorgan. Since inheriting the inspiration of Viv Richards, however, the Welsh club cannot be dismissed in any company.

Their captain, Alan Butcher, is playing the best cricket of his life. Matthew Maynard is relishing the regular opportunity to bat with Richards, and Steve Watkins is enjoying the form which made him an England prospect last year. Middlesex are worthy favourites but Mike Topping's hamstringing is a worry for them.

Hampshire's successful pursuit of 307 to eliminate Essex on Wednesday was proof that virtually no target is beyond them. Jon Ayling's all-round ability gives them solid strength which Yorkshire, the quarter-final visitors to Southampton, do not possess.

Two 10-wicket victories, over Norfolk and Warwickshire, indicate a revival of sorts at Headingley but this is a formidable tie for them.

Despite languishing in the basement area of the championship and the Sunday league, Worcestershire remain on course for a cup double, which would be something as they have never won either of them. If their injury list does not lengthen further (if it does, we may be seeing Basil D'Oliveira donning pads at the age of 58), then even a third consecutive away draw may not stop them against the erratic Northamptonshire, who have been over-dependent on the superb batting of David Capel.

Hamble humble favourites at Cowes

By BARRY PICKTHALL

JONATHAN Sherwell and his crew from the Hamble River Sailing Club were easy winners yesterday in the finals of the Virella Cup inter-club match race championship at Cowes.

Their opponents from the Royal Cornwall YC, who had held a clear lead during the preliminary rounds, went down without a fight, losing both races by wide margins. "I'm embarrassed to say we have just taken part in a most one-sided championship," Jonathan Money, Royal Cornwall's skipper, admitted after the rout. "We had no boat speed at all."

Money and his crew emerged from the first start with a three-boat-length advantage, but after throwing in several quick tacks the Hamble crew quickly wriggled clear of Cornwall and pulled away to finish 11 minutes 30 seconds ahead.

That initial victory over the favourites injected fresh confidence into the Hamble crew, who went on to dominate Money and his men in the preliminary of the second start, and led to the finish.

Mike Bishop, commodore of the Hamble club, which receives the 1,000-guinea first prize, said the money would be spent on a colour television and video camera.

RESULTS: 1. Hamble River SC (J Money), 2. Royal Cornwall YC (J Money), 3. Royal Cornwall YC (J Money), 4. Royal Cornwall YC (J Money), 5. Royal Cornwall YC (J Money), 6. Royal Cornwall YC (J Money), 7. Royal Cornwall YC (J Money), 8. Royal Cornwall YC (J Money), 9. Royal Cornwall YC (J Money), 10. Royal Cornwall YC (J Money).

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Discipline a casualty on Dublin Bay

From MALCOLM McKEAG
IN DUN LAOGHAIRE

LIGHT winds and thick fog forced the abandonment of racing on Dublin Bay yesterday for the fifth day of the Perrier Dragon Gold Cup, leaving the series to be decided today. Fred Imhoff, of the Netherlands, and Poul-Richard Hoy-Jensen head the overall points table, separated by only 3.3 points, with the race on Sunday.

It has been a week of mixed successes. The front of the fleet has enjoyed excellent sailing over well-set courses, but for many in the places between 30 and 70 the week has been spoiled by the sheer lawlessness

of a substantial minority who apparently care little for the racing rules. A once well-disciplined class is fast degenerating into a free-for-all.

The trouble began in the first race, last Sunday, when a German boat became hooked on the weather mark, carrying it some 50 yards out of position while 40 boats tried to round. Despite much shouting and crunching in the ensuing chaos not one protest was lodged from the incident, nor was the German seen to do the exonerating penalty turns required by the rules. Once free of the mark he simply carried on racing.

With 75 boats in the fleet, bunching at marks is inevitable, but nothing can excuse what is happening here. Yachts hit marks and sail on, hit each other and do likewise. Even a minor collision in a Dragon causes damage to some of the ramming - this week - have brought repair bills of hundreds of pounds.

Throughout, the International Jury watches the carnage from a large powerboat, apparently powerless to act. Under yachting's rules, protests from such incidents can be initiated only by competitors, and they know that going into the protest room is like entering a lottery. The evidence, taken orally by the jury hours later, inevitably conflicting and frequently richly embellished. The deliberations take several hours, spoiling the evening as the crash spoils the day.

While on-the-water refereeing has been a disaster, it is not the same problem, it is not practical with big fleets, perhaps a solution is to allow for observers at each mark with powers to report competitors to the jury who would then be required to have the competitor answer for his behaviour. While this would not eliminate collisions and rule misinterpretation, the knowledge of being under authority's eye might encourage at least some sort of compliance with the rules.

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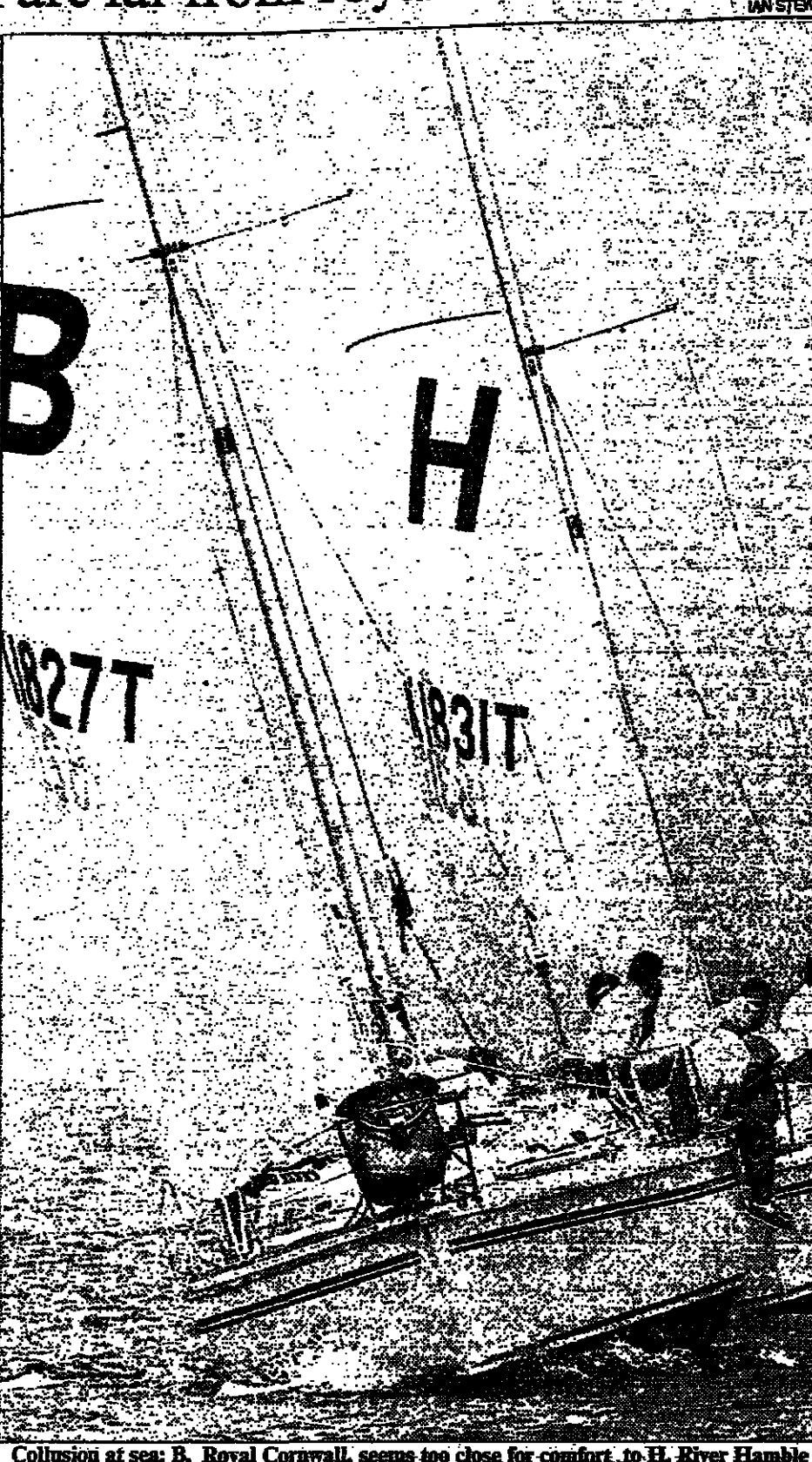
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Cornwall are far from royal in match race



Collision at sea: B, Royal Cornwall, seems too close for comfort to H, River Hamble

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Chiappucci takes over yellow jersey

5 CHANNEL TV

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● CRICKET: 36
● CYCLING: 37

THE TIMES SPORT

FRIDAY JULY 13 1990

Lewis-Johnson circus act not in the running

From DAVID MILLER IN LAUSANNE

THERE will be no head-to-head spectacle between Carl Lewis and Ben Johnson, specially arranged as a professional circus act on Johnson's reappearance on the track after the end of his two-year suspension this autumn by the International Amateur Athletic Federation, following the Olympic drugs scandal in Seoul two years ago.

Lewis yesterday spelt out his conditions for the much-heralded but unscheduled rematch. He is insistent, he said, that any race must be part of a regular scheduled track meeting.

"There will be no head-to-head," Lewis said, before last night's Mobil Grand Prix meeting here. "As yet, there is no contract, though there have been a lot of offers. The race must be in regular scheduled competition and random [drug] testing must be part of the deal."

Lewis indicated that he would not take part unless Johnson was tested at least two months before such a race. "If Johnson wants to do the sport some good, come back clean and speak out against drugs, and show he is glad to be given a second chance, that is fine and I am in favour," Lewis said. "But if he is not clear on the drugs issue

and just wants to come back to win a race, then that is worse than before."

Lewis said it was questionable, in his opinion, whether someone who had gained the advantages of muscle-building drugs still retained those advantages even after ceasing to use such drugs, as has been claimed by Sir Arthur Gold and others, including himself.

"The benefit from drugs is also emotional, a confidence factor," Lewis said. "When a person stops taking them, they show a dramatic decline. You can see it happening."

This will be Johnson's dilemma. Will he have the character and the nerve to come to the line against Lewis without the illegal stimulants that led to his sham Olympic victory? Given Johnson's introspective personality and lack of confidence — the fact that led him to take drugs in 1988 before the Olympics beyond the end of the "safe" period — that is doubtful. In a recent interview, Johnson admitted that his weight training capacity was reduced from loads of 260lb to around 200lb.

Lewis said yesterday that the proposed rematch could take place in a number of places: the United States, Japan, Europe. He would be agreeable any time between

September and early 1991.

The man who has been, in my opinion, the world's greatest sprinter since 1980, when the American boycott prevented his participation in Moscow, was in good spirits. He said that he might still compete in four events, in the Olympic Games in Barcelona in 1992; on the other hand, he might by then have retired. "I am just taking it year by year," he said, giving no indication about involvement in next year's world championships in Tokyo.

He felt he was by no means past his physical peak and thought himself capable of improving his best performance in either of the sprints this season, or at least of improving on Beamon's long jump record set at altitude in Mexico in 1968.

Lewis said he did not feel tainted by drugs disclosures on other athletes and did not feel under suspicion. "I believe most of the public can differentiate," he said. "I don't think they believe that the majority of athletes are on it. You can tell when anyone is on it. Certain muscle groups just do not develop from running."

He considers that random testing in the US can be seen to have produced a reduction in sporting drugs abuse.

Johnson stretches the envelope to one lap

From DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, LAUSANNE

MICHAEL Johnson, who regards the 400 metres as his second event, last night beat Danny Everett and Roberto Hernández, the two fastest men of the year, over the distance. Hernández, from Cuba, had a clear advantage over Johnson at halfway in the Mobil Grand Prix here, but Johnson's stronger finish made him a clearcut winner.

Johnson suggested by his performance in Edinburgh on Friday that, sooner or later this season, he would be a threat to Pietro Mennea's 11-year-old world record for 200 metres. There Johnson ran 19.85sec. Last night he secured his second personal best in seven days by running 44.27sec for one lap.

Not only did he beat Hernández, who set a world best for 300 metres last month, into second place, and Everett into third, but also two more of his highly regarded United States compatriots, Antonio Pettigrew and Jeff

Reynolds. Hernández recorded 45.52sec and Everett 45.06sec.

Monique Ewanje-Epee continues to prove herself the world's finest 100 metres hurdler. Top of the rankings this year and a winner in the Nice Grand Prix two days earlier, she defeated a strong field including Cornelia Oschkenat and Gloria Siebert, the East Germans.

Ewanje-Epee is the World Student Games champion but is now ready to leave that behind her. She is consistently running around twelve-and-a-half seconds.

Doina Melinte's winning streak in Grand Prix 1,500 metre races continued. But, briefly it looked as though Gina Procaccio, of the United States, might have escaped, never to be caught. She had a lead of 30 metres at the bell but was overtaken within 200 metres by the quickening Melinte.

In a non-Grand Prix 400

metres hurdles Max Robertson consolidated his place as the second fastest Briton this season, behind Kriss Akabusi. Robertson went under 50 seconds for the first time this year, recording 49.73sec to finish clear of Jose Alonso, the Spaniard, who was second in 50.30sec. It would be reasonable now to suggest that Robertson's best time, 49.35sec, should be revised before the summer is over.

Lindford Christie suffered a third successive defeat this season by the outstanding 100 metres runner of the year so far, Leroy Burrell, aged 23, and from the same club, Santa Monica, as Carl Lewis, won in 10.06sec. Christie was easily beaten.

Burrell was the fastest man in the world last year, his 9.94sec falling only 0.02sec short of Lewis's world record. He and Lewis will meet for the first time this season at the Goodwill Games in Seattle in a fortnight.

Last night Lewis won his race after trailing Andres Simon, of Cuba, for 60 metres. His time, 10.09sec, was fractionally slower than Burrell's but Burrell's run was with a tail wind and Lewis ran into a head wind.

Steve Cram, who has been missing from significant international competition for almost a year, has had to delay his return after limping away from the training track on Wednesday evening with a damaged Achilles tendon. Cram, aged 29, would have competed tomorrow in Oslo, where he set the world mile record in 1985.

Cram's record of 3min 46.32sec still stands. While Peter Elliott attempts to break it in tomorrow's Dream Mile, Cram had planned to run in the 800 metres. Last week in Cagliari he recorded 3min 38.31sec for 1500 metres.

Elliott will continue his return to the track with an outing in the 1500 metres at the Parcelforce Games at Crystal Palace on July 20.



Record-breaker: Woosnam smiles after holing a huge putt at the 6th yesterday

Woosnam is in prime form with record 62

By MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

IAN Woosnam gave notice of his intention to maintain winning form when he moved onto the heels of the halfway leader, Gordon Brand Jr, in the Bell's Scottish Open with a record second round of 62 on the King's course at Gleneagles yesterday.

Brand consolidated his position at the top of the leader board with a flawless round of 67 for a total of 132, ten under par. The Ochil Hills, however, were more alive to the sound of birdies and eagles from Woosnam as he produced a performance which echoed that of last week when he won the Monte Carlo Open with a last round of 60.

Woosnam overhauled Mark Mouland on that occasion, and now it is for Brand for whom the bell tolls. Woosnam has long since believed that from tee to green he is as good as his peers, yet he has been consistently inconsistent on the greens. The acquisition of a Ram Zembra putter with a slightly offset handle has cured his tendency to misdirect putts, and such is his confidence that he believes a win here can be followed by another in the Open Championship at St Andrews next week. He is cautious, however, when it comes to breaking the magical 60 barrier.

"That was a good score today and I think on this course it was better than my 60 at Mont Aigle," he said. "It has been an ambition of mine to break 60 since I saw Al Geiberger achieve it on television. It might be possible here on a calm day, but I doubt that it can be done at St Andrews, although I will be trying."

Woosnam will lead the Volvo Order of Merit with £285,415 entering the Open should he win on Saturday. He engineered that possibility with two halves of 31. On the outward nine he had three birdies, an eagle at the 6th with an audacious putt of 35 yards from off the green and a bogey at the 8th, where in

Card of the course

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	362	4	10	230	4
2	436	4	11	230	4
3	374	4	12	442	5
4	486	5	13	404	4
5	178	3	14	310	4
6	480	5	15	459	5
7	440	4	16	158	3
8	178	3	17	217	4
9	409	4	18	525	5
Out 3,327		35	In 3,482	36	
Total yardage: 6,789			Par: 71		

trying to punch a four-iron he succeeded only in cutting the ball into a bunker.

It was a rare error and one he did not repeat on the inward nine, which he began by reaching the green at the 10th with two drivers. He holed from 18 feet for a birdie at the 12th, drove the 14th and established a record for the redesigned King's course by sinking a 25-foot putt for an eagle at the last.

Brand has won two of his nine titles from the front and since he has dropped only one shot in 36 holes he, too, will not be short of confidence. He was the first to admit, however, that he failed to capitalise on his position following an outward half of 32. He made only one more birdie, at the 18th, where he took two putts from 18 feet.

Derrick Cooper was less than happy following a first round which took 5½ hours to complete, and he was still in a militant mood after adding a 69 to his opening 68 to finish the day in third place five strokes adrift of Brand. "Some positions were bordering on the ridiculous," Cooper said. "The one of the fifth was the worst I have seen in my life, and we couldn't see the flag from the tee at the 16th."

Nick Faldo rescued himself with a birdie at each of the last two holes to survive the halfway cut by one stroke, but Bernhard Langer, Jose Maria Olazabal, David Frost, Philip Walton, Sandy Lyle, Mark James, Christy O'Connor Jr, Ken Brown and Jerry Pate were among those who missed it.

St Andrews museum, page 14

LEADING SCORES

(GB and Ireland unless stated)
132: G Brand Jr, 65, 67, 134: I Woosnam, 62, 62, 124: D Cooper, 68, 68, 148: R Drummond, 71, 69, R Spill, 75, 67, M McIlroy, 62, 73, 67, 141: R Davis (USA), 71, 70, S Torrance, 69, 72, D Feherty, 69, 72, J Brown (USA), 72, 69, R Kneale (Japan), 71, 70, C Perry (AUS), 67, 74, 142: J Rystrom (SWE), 72, 70, P Curry, 77, 65, W Holey (USA), 70, 72, P Stewart (USA), 70, 72, M Roe, 74, 68, C Moody, 74, 68, P Broadhurst, 77, 65, R Zook (CAN), 72, 70, A Stevenson, 69, 73, M Allen (USA), 71, 71, 143: A Johnson (22m), 75, 68, S Macdonald, 74, 69, M Cagman (AUS), 74, 69, G J Brand, 74, 69, R Chapman, 72, 71, M Mackenzie, 71, 72, D A Russell, 70, 73, 145: E Dussan (FRA), 74, 71, C Nelson, 72, 72, H Barocchi (ITA), 73, 72, M Persson (SWE), 75, 70, J M Carles (ESP), 75, 69, O Selberg (SWE), 74, 71, J Morgan, 72, 73, B Lane, 76, 69, B Ogle (AUS), 73, 72, N Faldo, 72, 73.

Gower returns for series against India

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

SIX weeks on from the rude revelation that his latest England comeback was not all it had seemed, David Gower is back once more. He will bat at No. 3, his natural position, in next week's Texaco Trophy games against India and, much more importantly, he will stay there for the opening Test of the series, at Lord's.

Gower has reclaimed his place at the expense of the disappointing Neil Fairbrother and, as urged in these columns yesterday, the selectors have given him an assurance that, this time, he would not be evicted on the tenuous evidence of two one-day innings.

If, having been omitted from the winter tour party, Gower was brought back with unseemly haste at the start of this summer, he was then discarded in a manner which was both unfeeling and unfair. For the first time during a year of numerous setbacks, he reacted verbally in a way which could have been thought bitter. Yesterday, he explained why.

"It was not so much that I was down in the dumps," he said. "I really wanted to let people know that I was not just sitting back and accepting it meekly. It actually meant a bit more to me than that."

"The things I said were heartfelt but I appreciate I might have lost a bit of ground because of it. That is all in the past now and I am much happier about coming back with the guarantee of being involved in a Test, as well. That makes it a lot more comfortable."

Although he has played 107 limited-overs internationals, some memorable innings scattered among them, Gower has never considered the one-day game as anything more than an appetiser to the main course of five-day cricket and, whatever his fate in next week's matches, his priority will rightly be the resumption of his Test career on July 26. He ought to make runs against a limited Indian attack and, if he does, another tour of Australia is his for the taking.

The return of Angus Fraser means that one of the seam bowlers will miss out. On form, it is likely to be Gladstone Small.

England party

	Age	Matches
G A Gough (Essex, capt)	38	63
A A Alcott (Leeds)	35	18
R A Smith (Sussex)	26	18
D J Gower (Northants)	33	107
D J Stewart (Sussex)	27	19
A C Stewart (Sussex)	27	19
P A J Duff (Leeds)	24	24
G C Small (Worcestershire)	28	28
W G Lawton (Essex)	27	28
D E Maloney (Derbyshire)	27	27
C C Lewis (Leeds)	22	22
R G Fraser (Essex)	24	1

I understand he was informed of his recall by the England captain, Graham Gough, before the start of Wednesday's NatWest Trophy match at Chelmsford. This means that the visit of Mickey Stewart, the manager, to Derby, widely viewed as a hint for the selection of John Morris, was nothing of the kind.

Morris is unlikely to be overlooked yet again and the fact that the manager watched his 74 against Lancashire will be of little consolation. He knew, after a talk with Stewart that evening, that his turn had still not come.

Gower believes he is presently playing close to his peak and those who saw his century against the Indians last week agree, but, if Morris could not gain this place, he surely had a case for preference over the manager's son, Alec Stewart, retained yet again without a serious score to his name.

Stewart is likely to be one of those left out of the final XI in the Texaco games but if the selectors persist with an specialist batsman, plainly unnecessary against the Indians, he will probably remain in the Test team at No. 6.

Derek Pringle was considered for the one-day games, as is customary, but this time it was felt that Chris Lewis could capably do the job of the all-rounder. My own hope is that he will carry it off sufficiently well to persuade the selectors that he can bat at six in the Test side too, thus allowing the extra bowler to play.

The return of Angus Fraser means that one of the seam bowlers will miss out. On form, it is likely to be Gladstone Small.

NatWest draw, page 36

Wedding a priority for Taylor

THE Football Association's sense of timing would be far from impeccable should it choose to appoint Graham Taylor England football manager today (Louise Taylor writes).

After waiting six weeks for official confirmation that he would succeed Bobby Robson, Taylor is hoping any announcement will be deferred until Monday to allow him to concentrate on preparations for his daughter's wedding tomorrow.

Last night, on the eve of the FA's summer conference at Blackpool, Bert Millichip, its chairman, and Doug Ellis, chairman at Villa Park, met to discuss compensation for Taylor. Millichip said: "I anticipate something happening shortly. I now have the opportunity to talk to Mr Ellis and this is a wonderful chance to finally sort things out."

Millichip said of Taylor: "He's been told to be patient. He knows exactly what the position is and he is not worried about the wait."

● Chester City's future in the Football League was assured at Blackpool yesterday when a League management committee meeting approved the club's proposed ground sharing scheme with non-League Macclesfield Town.

Chairman comes in fighting

THE chairman of the new Football Licensing Authority, Norman Jacobs, yesterday threatened "bloody noses" in his fight for more safety and less squalor at football grounds. The authority, established under the Football Spectators Act 1989, will licence League grounds, improving conditions of safety and comfort.

Jacobs said: "If we don't grant a licence in respect of any ground then there will be no football there. I would say most of them will try hard to hope all of them will — but the new system like this I'm realistic enough to know that there will be a few bloody noses."

Speaking after a meeting with the home secretary, David Waddington, he said: "Things have been allowed to go their own sweet way for years and years and years. It's taken Hillsborough to jolt us. The real priority is there must never be another Hillsborough or anything approaching it. We want more safety and less squalor."

The all-party Commons Home Affairs Select Committee will enquire into the policing of football crowds. The MPs will examine the extent of cooperation between British and European police forces and the readmission of English clubs.

Americans step boldly into unknown territory

From RODDY FORSYTH IN ROME

BEFORE one World Cup is cold in the record books, the next tournament is already taking shape on the slipway. At the end of Sunday's final in Rome, the giant screens at each end of the ground bore a message that read: "Ciao, Italia 90 — Hello, USA 1994".

However, on present evidence, the United States is still a considerable way from being able to extend a confident welcome to the rest of the football world and already rumours have begun to circulate that the 1994 tournament might be moved to a different venue.

Conscious, perhaps, of their position, the Americans arrived here mob-handed to study the workings of the tournament and its aftermath. A total of 205 representatives, from 25 of the cities which want to stage matches during the 1994

finals, have been in Italy to discover what exactly was involved.

They represent locations as disparate as Chicago, Illinois, and Corvallis, Oregon, and if a few of them might have auditioned for the role played by James Stewart in *Mr Deeds Comes to Town*, there has, at least, been an internationally regarded heavyweight in the American corner, Dr Henry Kissinger.

The former secretary of state for the United States has been the principal target for those who believe that the US television networks will not bid for the rights to cover a sport that has persistently failed to interest the American public. One commentator, Paul Breitner, the former West German international, has even gone so far as to suggest that the lack of television interest would cause the tournament to be moved.

Dr Kissinger, however, does not subscribe to such views. "The

Italian finals were shown in the US by TNT, which is a subscribers' cable network unavailable to most parts of the country. Now, I am on the board of CBS and while I am not saying that CBS will take the 1994 World Cup, they will certainly hear from me in the next four years."

"Between various networks in the four years we have available, I am confident that we will get reasonable TV coverage, but we have a lot of work to do and I wouldn't pretend otherwise."

"If it should turn out that we have problems then we will say so, because we don't want to disgrace the United States in not putting on a performance which is comparable with what has gone before, but at this stage we have not yet tried to enlist the major American companies."

When asked if he would be in favour of altering the format of the game to suit the American tele-

vision networks, Dr Kissinger replied: "I don't favour changing the rules so that a game has four periods of 25 minutes. We will certainly not push it in the United States. If FIFA were to do it, that's another matter."

At home, meanwhile, the American organisers have begun to undergo what might be described as reality therapy. In the two years since they were awarded the World Cup, little head way has been made in attracting sponsorship. In May, the Soccer Industry Council of America invited three corporate executives to diagnose faults in the organisers' approach.

The replies were scathing. Hank Steinbrecher, the sports marketing director of Gatorade, whose bottles were hurled to thirsty players by coaches throughout the Italian finals, said: "There's more quicksand than there is concrete in the American soccer marketplace."

"We feel that FIFA will probably identify the problems early on after their Italian experience, take a month's vacation, come back and analyse the US market and say: 'Boys, we've got some problems and we're going to change them.' It's too important for them not to fix."

For all the early scaremongering about American inability to make the World Cup finals a domestic and international success, some observers are optimistic that it will all come right in the end. Paul Gardner, the managing editor of the magazine, *Soccer America*, is one.

He said: "It will be a great event, a phenomenon which has come to town. They will want to be part of it. Providing you aren't concerned with whether or not it turns the USA into a soccer-orientated country, there is good reason to suppose that 1994 will go well when it eventually comes around."

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